1993 Walter D Koenig

Sialia mexicana

Hastings Reservation, Monterey Co., Calif.

28 April 800. Box 256: 4 eggs. ♀ on nest, flushed.

12 May 915. Box 250: 5 eggs.

1010. Box 256: babies a couple days old. ♀NOBA brooding. I'd say: band by ~22 May at least.

1200. Box 259 (ARF, TOO): 5 eggs! 3 nests up here!

13 May 1100. Natural cavity at Blomone (same old wiley hole as last year) near box 213: 4 eggs. (Actually, in the middle of the triangle made by boxes 213, 202, & 332.)

14 May 1000. Box 45: Yellow a definite ♂; Red a ♂ (or, improbably, a very bright ♀).

18 May 800. Box 259: still 5 eggs.

825. Box 256: 4 babies. Setting up to catch adults. Baby (1) is 20.0 gm

842: Caught ♂NOBA. Now ♂ DB LG / DB LG WL: 103 wt: 26.7 g

#1998 2Y by 10th ¹⁰ Bled (#1)

900. Caught ♀NOBA Now ♀ LG Wh / LG Wh WL: 99 Wt: 29.1 g

#1999 2Y by 10th ¹⁰ Bled (#2)

930. Box 250: v young babies; ♀NOBA brooding.

20 May 1045. Natural cavity at Blomone: still 4 eggs. ("Box 213")

1240. Set up to catch birds at natural cavity at 309, which has 4 eggs + 1 baby, est 9 do.

1400. Caught the ♀NOBA: Now ♀ Or DB / Or DB WL: 100 Wt 27.0 g

2Y by 10th ¹⁰ Bled (#1)

21 May 1000. Back for the ♂ at 309 natural cavity (still 1 baby).

23 May 1445. ♂NOBA at 309 natural cavity (finally): now ♂ Yw LB / Y LB WL 99 wt 25.8

2Y by 10th ¹⁰ Bled (#1)

Baby also banded: 1311-94005/DB LP-DB BP-Blk WL: 37 Wt: 26.0 g (not sexable yet)

30 May 1300. 3 live + 1 dead baby (Red) at box 273; 5 babies at box 274.

22 July 1145. Box 59. Got camera. 3 babies:
Yellow - ♂; Green & Pink - ♀♀

1993 Walter D Koenig

1

Icterus gabula bullocki

San Antonio Valley, Santa Clara Co., Calif.

28 May 1100. While out here after Lewis' Woodpeckers I blind a couple of nests that I could get to. The first had 3 babies (Nest 1)

1993 Walter D Koenig

Agelaius phoeniceus

Laguna Conejo, Oak Ridge Ranch Monterey Co., Calif.

11 June Potter traps are out and baited. But where are all the birds? I only see a couple Red-wings walking around the pond in the afternoon. Is it late in the day? Early in the season? When did Uto come last year...? (There certainly are not nests out there yet...)

23 June Still looks essentially deserted at Laguna Conejo.

1991 Walter D Koenig

Pituophis

Hastings Reservation, Monterey Co., Calif.

29 April First warm/hot day since mid-March and at least 2 people reported gopher snakes today, so they're definitely out.

27 May 1125. Just saw the tail of a Gopher snake disappear into Gazebo's nest hole as I was going up to return the (just banded) 24 d.o. nestlings! Pulled him out - he was a good 2½-3' long, and moved him elsewhere. This nest is a good 30' up in a Valley Oak, by the way - not an easy climb by any means.

1991 Walter D Koenig
1992
1993

Odonata

Hastings Reservation, Monterey Co., Calif

3 June — A lone *Aeschna* up at the remains of Soto Springs today at ~1100.

4 June — 1130 (PST). One *Plathemis* ♂ and a *Sympetrum* at Blompond. The *Plathemis* was patrolling the entire pond. This is the first one I've seen this year.

9 June — 1030. Swinging by Blompond there is 1 *Aeschna*, 1 ♂ *Plathemis* (sitting at the corner toward Hay-Blom), and 2-3 *Sympetrum* types. Pretty quiet!

1515. There are 2 nice fresh-looking *Plathemis* ♂♂ at Corral Viejo pond, which is low but still extant.

15 June — 1000. Warm day, but only 1 *Sympetrum*-type on the pond. Certainly not a banner year.

3 July — 830. 1 *Plathemis* and 1 *Aeschna* patrolling Blompond this morning. Also 1 *Sympetrum*-type there. All this even though it's quite hot today.

1992

23 April — Several ♂ *Plathemis* patrolling on Laguna Conejo today!

7 May — Lots of *Plathemis* (≥ 6 ♂♂) at Blompond this afternoon. Could be a good year once again.

1993

21 April — A nice fresh ♀ *Plathemis* seen down along Big Creek today.

28 April — 1300. Two ♂ *Plathemis* patrolling Blompond. 1 mating seen.

4 May — 1500. A nice fresh ♂ *Plathemis* up on top of School Hill (by the big exclosure)

1993 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

HNHR, Monterey Co., Calif.

28 April Noticed on the way up to the Arnold that the ARF granary (to the R of the road just beyond turnoff to the Lichen exclosure) has fallen, presumably within the past couple months if not days.

6 July [illegible] nest [illegible].

930. Added a 'baby' (~10 do) from Central Canyon to see if we can get the 'LWs' to feed.

930-1130. [illegible] immediately and we well into the swing of things by the end of the watch. No sign of LWs at nest.

7 July The baby is fine.

915-1115. Taped. No sign of LWs.

8 July [illegible] LW flew almost to the baby, but [illegible] [illegible]? I [illegible] [illegible]

9 July 830. [illegible]

845-1045. Removed AWs to adjoining cage; left the lone LW here by himself at the baby. No sign of [illegible] at the nest [illegible], making [illegible].

1993
1994

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Buckeye

HNHR

5 April 1300. Came up here with everyone to check the hole: 2 eggs! Also, there are stores remaining here.

8 June 1600. After the failure of that 1st nest, I'm checking for a nest. No sign of anything, here or at Buckeye Annex.

11 June 400. Set up here a ½ hr or so and checked all holes. Bitch. I did here a bird once. Note: stores do remain in the granary.

22 July 900. Stores remaining. No birds seen.

1994

19 January 1130. Nobody here on arrival, but the granary is quite full. (Certainly 4000+ acorns, as a rough guess.)

No sign of life over at Buckeye Annex, by the way.

3 March 1700. While showing Jeremy Chongo I heard a bunch of activity and could see 3-4 birds up at Buckeye Annex. I have no idea what was going on, but we do need to keep an eye on this area.

17 April 1545. Bird in hole in main (traditional) tree! Noone, however, at Buckeye Annex, although I flushed 1 bird on the way up to it from Chongo.

27 April 1840. Noone in the hole, which now appears to have partly fallen apart (but still possibly useable).

9 May Plenty of stores remaining here.

1100. Things seem rather unsettled - a fair amount of chasing, garricks, etc.

25 July The bad news: Mary reports a NOBA juv here - but still only the "helper" ♀! Whadya whadya?! So we're up here this evening to see where they're roosting.

1994 Walter D Koening
1995
1996

Melanerpes formicivorus

Buckeye HNHR

9 August 530. Ambushed at the old hole in the granary (where there are still plenty of stores) and got 2 birds - ♂2173 & ♀2091. Many saw kids here, but no luck catching them yet.
At least 2 NOBA juvs here.

12 October 600. Ambushed this morning at the one nice hole in the granary: Jennifer thought she saw 5 birds go in; we got 3, but 2 were the NOBA juvs! Also got ♂2174. Hope we can finally piece together what happened here.
The juvs were just beginning to molt - so they did probably fledge late this year (ie, summer).

1995

19 May 1200. Came over to Buckeye Annex after Pete saw a bird here, but nothing. Plenty of stores at Buckeye, however.

1996

3 January 1130. Definitely life here: granary is about ⅓-½ full. Hardly indicative of a good year, but ~~not~~ certainly not terrible.

11 April 1145. Bird in hole! No bands, mines, though. Group here seems to have lost a big chunk of their granary (~400-500 holes), but still has acorns remaining.
1620. Noone over at Buckeye annex.

12 April 1245. Opened the hole after dragging the ladder up: zilch, but looks in reasonable shape.

21 April Noone in any holes here.

12 June Noone in any holes, but there are still stores here (this is a supplemented group).

1997 Walter D Koenig

1998

1999

Melanerpes formicivorus

Buckeye HNHR

9 May 945. Definitely youngish babies in the old hole in the upper Valley Oak up from the granary area.
1100. No! In new hole ½ way down! 3 babies ~13 do. (Band 17 May).

3 July 1430. Checked the (2nd) nest; ♂2174 inside! 4 babies, only ~2-3 do. At least one is unlikely to make it. Plenty of stores left here.

9 July 1515. Hole empty! Actually, there were still lots of eggshells and one baby skeleton. In any case, the nest failed.

1998

21 April 1115. Lots of stores, but noone in any holes.

1999

20 April Aud again: Stores yes: birds in holes no.
7 July Stores? Yes.

1993
1994

Walter D. Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Chongo

HNHR

21 January 1030. Counted stores: 1242. Tree is quite filled up here.

2 April Lots of stores still here when Erik & I came by to add a feeder.

4 May 1545. No sign of a nest, but lots of acorns and even a bird up in the granary.

5 May 1930. 4 birds here, quite vocally, at roosting. Lots of karrits, pre-roost mounting, interference, and even chasing, but I think they all belong here. Three apparently roosted somewhere across the ravine, while I don't think anyone roosted in the granary - even though they spent all their time there until the last minute.

13 May 830. Checked both holes, which are empty. The top one (at least) is in excellent shape, however.

15 May 945. ≥3 birds in sycamores. Flew across canyon, then returned to the granary. Still noone in either of the holes, however.

1994

19 January 1100. Counted stores: 1557. Tree is pretty much full. Flushed 1 bird upon arrival.

17 April 1430. Checked nest here & measured eggs, of which there are 7. Sizes are: ① 26.5×20.5 ② 24.8×19.1 ③ 27.4×20.4 ④ 24.8×18.7 ⑤ 26.7×20.1 ⑥ 26.9×20.3 ⑦ 25.9×19.1. Stanback had marked the 1st 6; the 7th was new.

20 April 1630. Pulled the eggs for the ♂ removal experiment. Eggs put in incubator.

27 April 1315. Plan now is to try and get mate-guarding. To that end, Joey and I are here. Birds over beyond Buckeye Annex...

1994 Walter D Koenig
1995
1996

Melanerpes formicivorus

Chongo — HNHR

(27 April) 1330. ① ♀ Yel/M #2114. (helper) ← has green mark on face. Also ② ♂ R-W(N)/DK #2175.
1400. ③ ♂ Mv/M #2326. ♀ NOBA here briefly ⑤ ♀ Yel/ #1968.
Birds mostly on other side of canyon.
1848. Bird in a hole in Buckeye Annex tree. (Not one of the opened ones.)
1900. Birds mostly roosted in the higher of the 2 old nest holes (!)

5 May 1445. The buggers ended up renesting in the (lower) old Buckeye Annex hole! Limb is pretty dead, but Joey helped me get up there with the help of ½ the 40' extension ladder hoisted up in the tree! They have 8 fresh eggs ① 28.0 × 19.9 ② 26.6 × 19.6 ③ 26.4 × 19.8 ④ 26.8 × 19.7 ⑤ 26.6 × 19.7 ⑥ 28.0 × 20.2 ⑦ 26.7 20.0 ⑧ 26.5 × 196

18 May 1030. Weighed the 6 babies (see Joey's notes for weights) One on the way out.

1 June 2000. Rooster was already in hole when I arrived. Markings are on back of page →

4 June 1300. Banded & bled the 6 kids, #2491–2496.

1995

3 February 1700. Counted stores: 1915. Tree is quite full still – virtually no sign of depletion yet.

22 May 1330. Set up to try and get the ♀♀ for blood at the nest. There are acorns remaining here.
1500. Noone came! Giving up for now.

1996

3 January No acorns here. Looking empty. Group abandoned...?
21 April Noone in any holes.

Rooste 1 June

Note angles

1997
1998
1999

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Chongo

HNHP

9 May — 1700. Despite there having been no sign of life here all year, there was a bird in the old nesthole this morning and 5 fresh eggs! Note: There are no stores here. The eggs: ① 24.3 × 20.6 ② 24.5 × 19.8

21 May — 1600. 5 babies, ~4-5 days old. Two were runty & on the way out so I pulled them for tissue samples. [Band ~ 6 June]

29 Aug — A couple of possible stored acorns, but basically they're out of stores here.

1998

21 April — 1230. Stored acorns here, but no birds.

14 May — 1530. Made it to the hole (over at Buckeye Annex) and they do have young babies, but I couldn't get to the bottom to find out how many there are.

26 May — 1500. Opened the hole and set up for ambushing. Only 1 kid, ~17 days old (est. LED ≅ 28 April). Banded him as #2975.

1999

18 April — 1920. Noone roosted on the Chongo side tonight. Also, there are no stores here, best I could tell.

3 November — Walked up here with Teresa. No sign of stores.

~~1992~~ Walter D Koenig
1993
1994

Melanerpes formicivorus

Plaque

HNHR

21 January 1100. Counted stores: Main tree: 2564; 2° tree: 232; Tel pole, misc: 258 } 3054.

There are a lot of acorns stuck in and around here.

3 April Lots of stores here; also, a Finch effect.

1994

19 January 1200. Counted stores: Main tree: 2644; 2° tree 226; Tel pole, misc ~100 } 2970

Trees are pretty full (90%?). Saw ♀DB-Or/M #973 while counting.

17 April 1500. Bird in hole over by the upper barn.

18 April 1030. Checked hole: 4 eggs, 1 a runt! Measurements:
① 20.5 × 16.0 (Runt) ② 25.6 × 19.6 ③ 26.2 × 19.6 ④ 24.8 × 20.0

Eggs fresh.

31 August 715. After discovering NOBA kids here from a missed 2nd nest (!) I ambushed all over and got 6 birds (but missed several others), including 1 NOBA juv.

25 October 1600. Setting ambushes for the Japanese film crew, I noticed a dead bird in the new low hole over by the upper barn (below the 2 prior nest holes). I pulled out a bird #2277, a '93 Plaque kid. She was at least a week old, I'd say.

26 October At the ambushes this morning we only got ♂2428 (molting to ♂) at the upper barn and ♀2426 by the labs. Both were measured (♀2426 only bled) and released.

1995 Walter D Koenig

1

Melanerpes formicivorus

Plaque HWHR

3 February 1730. Finally got to count acorns, and there are indeed an amazing number here! I counted:

Plaque tree 5020 } 5525
2° tree, tel pole 505 }

The trees are loaded; given that it was getting dark, I bet there are even more here. Among other things there is an entire limb of the Plaque tree with holes I never noticed before!

9 May 1130. Opened both holes (the lower one is new) over by the Upper Barn - both are empty.

12 May 1230. Checked the 2 holes again: still both empty.

15 June 1700. Saw 4 birds: ♂♂ 2056, 2428, 2429, & 2430.

19 October 1400. Watching with Eric. Saw ♂ DB-Wn(N)/LP? ?? #2278

(2) ♂ R-W(N)/R-W(N) ? #2563 New immigrants here, finally, along with a fair amount of activity.

(3) ♂ M/Wn-DB ? #2563

(4) ♂ DB/M ? #2278. busy storing

No new ♂♂ after all (?) What about the ♀♀?

2 December 1700. I was sitting under the Plaque tree with the BBC photographer (Keith) when all of a sudden we heard a minor ruckus and out zipped a hawk with a screaming Acorn Woodpecker in its talons! It zipped over by the Upper Barn where we chased it, scaring it off the ground and up into the forest (with the woodpecker screaming again as soon as the hawk got up off the ground). Unfortunately we then lost it.

Bird was taken right out from the center of the Plaque tree!!

The hawk was almost certainly a Cooper's, but I

1995 Walter D Koenig
1996

Melanerpes formicivorus

Plaque HNHR

(2 December) didn't really see it well enough to be sure (it wasn't a Falcon certainly). Most interesting was the fact that the bird definitely screamed as he or she was taken out - no doubt but that it was some sort of last-ditch effort. (Unsurprisingly, none of the other group members, and at least 2 were in the Plaque trees, followed or tried to interfere in any way.)

Quite an event! One less bird here for sure.

1996

3 January 1500. Counted stores: Maintree: 1812) 1924
2nd tree, 112)

Not bad, considering I barely found any last fall. But barely any numbers either.

7 May 1200. Bird in lower hole up by the Upper Barn: 4 eggs, fresh. I measured 2: 26.6 × 20.5 & 25.6 × 20.2.

11 May 1930. Two birds roosted in the nest tonight: ♂1757 and one other, unfortunately unidentified.

12 May 1155. Tonight I did better. First, ♂2430 went in the hole. Then ♂2056 came, thought about it for a while, then left. Finally, ♂1757 came and joined ♂2430. The bottom line is, ♂1757 and ♂2430 roosted together in the nest.

13 May The ♂ in the hole when I arrived at 1215 stayed. All I ever saw was ♂2056, who came very late but then left, possibly (apparently?) scared off by my light.

15 May Tonight, ♂1757 spent the night in the nest alone,

1996 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Plaque HNHR

(15 May) replacing ♂2430, who came late and probably would have stayed had ♂1757 not come.

19 May 1940. Unless a 2nd bird went in quite late, ♂1757 was the only bird to roost in the hole tonight.

24 June 2006. Apparently ♂2430 ~~spent the~~ roosted in the nest by himself tonight, unless something else happened quite late. (2nd nest)

27 June 2005. Tonight it was again ♂2430 roosting in the nest by himself.

30 June 2005. And again ♂ Blk/Red #2430, alone in the nest.

8 July HOD. Banded and bled the 3 kids.

1997
1999

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Plaque — HNHR

25 March — 1145. Old hole over by upper Barn: 3 eggs, fresh. Measured one: 26.4 x 20.7

3 April — 1220. Still 3 eggs, incubated

6 April — 1245. 1 baby (wt: 13.8g; ~3 do) and 2 dead eggs, both removed by me.

13 May — 1245. Bled the 3 kids this morning; now I've caught and am removing - at least temporarily, the ♀ in hopes of inciting some power struggle activity.

15 May — 830. PS activity has been modest but detectable. Nest is fine.

① ♀ LG DG/M DOLLWN #2702 (from Knoll) ② ♂ 2478 ③ ♂ 2708

16 May — ♀ released this afternoon.

1999

10 May — 900. A nice power struggle going on this morning — 12+ birds at least. Caught ♀ 2677 from Still.

Also caught: ♂ 2056 (Breeder ♂ here)
♀ 2954 (sib of 2677 from Still)
♂ 3060 (a Plaque helper)
♀ 2966 (a helper from Still - not seen since last fall)

7 June — After seeing a bird in the high hole again, I finally went up the Plaque tree & chopped it off. I found 2 shell fragments afterwards, so they did have eggs. Too bad! But there was really no way to get to that hole.

1997
1998 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

MP Cavity HNHR

24 March ~~1530~~ 1530. Opened their hole in the Blue Oak just up from the lab: 3 fresh eggs.

25 March 1200. Checked the nest: still 3 eggs. Measured one: 25.2 × 19.8 mm. Also, ♂2563 was inside incubating when I checked it. (He didn't flush!)

2 April 1300. 3 young (1 do?) babies. All looked about the same size.

22 May 1300. Opened another new hole here in the Blue Oak: 2 fresh eggs. (2nd nest).

30 May 1100. Prepped the hole: 3 eggs. Should hatch about 4 June.

31 May 1500. Finally measured the eggs: ① 24.5 × 19.7 ② 24.7 × 19.7 ③ 23.1 × 17.8

10 June 920. Hole is empty. Nest failed. We filmed up here, but I doubt that was it.

10 July Joey reports another nest in the 1st hole - fairly old babies!!

25 Aug There are still stored acorns in the locust here.

1998

28 April 1130. New hole! Opened it: 4 eggs, a couple days incubated. Measured all 4: ① 24.7 × 20.9 ② 25.5 × 21.4 ③ 25.6 × 20.2 ④ 22.1 × 176

10 May 1530. Babies have hatched! Watching now to try and get the ♀. Checked nest: 2 babies (~3 do), + 1 unhatched egg. Band ~ 28 May. FLED = 26 Apr. Seen in the tree ♀2333, ♀2439, ♂2563, ♂2749, ♀2940, ♂2751, ♂2430, ♂2750.

1998 Walter D Koenig
1999

Melanerpes formicivorus

Cavity HNHR

11 May 600. Ambushed at last year's nest hole; got quite a set of birds. Held the breeder ♀ and 1 helper ♀ until 1030, but no sign of a power struggle. Weather is marginal, however.

1999

26 April 1700. Bird in hole (high hole - tag #278). Checked it: 4 eggs (incubated) plus a runt! (5 total). Measured one: 24.7 × 21.0 mm.

5 May 1500. Checked nest: 3 babies ~ 4-5 do, + the runt egg, which I removed. Band ~ 21 May.

14 June 1400. Bird in hole (below 1st nest)!
1430. Checked it (hole #273): good shape but empty.

20 June The hole with IDs 273 + 278 still

1993 Walter D Koenig
1994
1995
1996

Melanerpes formicivorus

Y HNHR

21 January — No stores here. Birds that come down here are presumably mostly Knoll "visitors" (actually, they've pretty much taken over the barn area, but are not storing in the locusts).

1994

19 January — 1450. Again, no stores (or group) here.

1995

5 February — Some stores (maybe 1-200) in the locust next to the barn. Presumably Knoll...?

1996

3 January 1997. No stores here (actually, [illegible] 6, but I wouldn't swear they were good.)
1400. But wait! There's a hit in front of the barn! Who might it be? A Plague bird, maybe? or do we have birds here at Y/Knoll afterall?

1993
1994
1995

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Knoll | HNHP

21 January — 1200. Counted stores: Main Valley Oak (along Wickenhall trail): 1924; Other limbs (VO nearest the lake): 202 } 2126

Doing well here, I'd say.

27 April — 1150. Bird in high sycamore hole (across from Lower Barn): 4 eggs, at least several days incubated.

By the way: plenty of stores left here. (There are even some in a crack in the telephone pole below box #11.)

1994

19 January — 1450. Counted stores in the Valley Oak: 2080; Other limbs: 230 } 2310

These facilities are quite full!

4 May — 1000. Opened the (new) hole here across the creek from the Schoolhouse: 4 eggs, pretty fresh. Unfortunately, I wasn't able to get them out to measure, however.

12 May — 1600. Checked nest: Nada. Another failure. Can't even be sure we had a complete nest.

Plenty of stores left here.

17 June — 1220. Banded & bled the 4 kids from the low agave hole.

7 July — 1100. Stores remaining.

1995

5 February — 1500. Counted stores: Main tree: 1962 (still full!); other limb: 32 (mostly fell since '94) } 1994.

Note that there are also some stores (maybe 200?) in the locust by the lower barn that presumably belongs to this group (?)

12 May — 1303. Bird flushed from canyon hole – no doubt the nest.

1995
1996

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Knoll

14 May 1300. Opened the Canyon hole: 4 eggs, incubated.
Measured one: 26.7 × 20.1 mm.

23 May 920. Checked nest: 3 babies, 1 unhatched egg. Largest baby weighs 13.5g ≈ 3 days old. Egg removed.

11 June 1100. Banded & bled the 3 kids here.
No stores left in the granary here!

Big

3 January 130. Saw possibly fresh shells in the granary but otherwise it's empty. Are there owen birds here?

24 May 1245. Opened the new hole in the Y canyon: 4 eggs, fresh. They were also big! The one I measured was a record 29.4 × 19.6 mm!

28 May 1315. Checked the nest: still 4 eggs.

5 June 1230. Checked nest: 4 babies; 10.5 g (~3 dd).

11 June 1100. Tried to get the 3, but only 2 left. Left up so that it got used to the outside.

15 June 900. Got her! ♂2527 also fed.

17 June 1000. It roosting tonight ♂ alone (or ♂&♀) roosted alone with an unidentified 2nd bird flocked by ♂&♀.

18 June 2000. Tonight, ♂1301 and possibly an unid 2nd bird roosted in the nest.

1998 Walter D Koenig
1999

Melanerpes formicivorus

Knoll HNHR

8 May 1400. Opened new hole in locust closest to lake. 4 eggs, incubated. Measured 1: 27.6 x 20.3.

16 May 1700. Checked the nest-empty! A real-live failure. Plenty of stores here; weather's been terrible, but everyone else seems OK.

1 June 1100. Bird in same hole: 2 hatchlings + 2 eggs, 1 of which is underveloped. I took + measured it: 28.2 x 19.8. Band 21 June.

1999

11 May 1045. Bird in last year's hole: 5 eggs, fresh. Measured one: 26.0 x 20.0 mm.
Stores: Yes.

19 May Checked hole: empty! Tagged #289.

14 June 1400. 2nd nest in same hole (#289). 3 babies, ~5 dy, + 2 eggs (26.9 x 19.9, 27.5 x 20.3).
Band ~ 2 July.

1993 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Central Canyon (Refute) HNHK

3 April This group supplemented with dog food; feeder put out today.

24 April 1400. Checked the hole in the CeCyn tree: 6 fresh eggs (#1-6). Are there 2 ♀♀ here? Bird was flushed from the hole.

21 June MTS reports: acorns remaining here.

6 July 915. Stole the nest box at Fox & Hedgie Hole for temporary transplanting to the aviary.

17 July 1430. Can't find the "babies" (the nest is still in the aviary but they were held back in the nest!). Pale carcasses were quite far gone; they've been dead at least a week. Wonder why they abandoned? Guess I'll leave the nest in the aviary.... (I'll bleach him tomorrow & give him a coat++).

1994 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Refuge 1 (Central Canyon) HNHR

10 April 1300. Came over here to check the old nest hole (Central Canyon tree) but it seemed as though the birds were more interested in a new hole several feet higher and facing HNHR. I checked both; both were empty. The new hole is in better shape, however.

Also, there are at least a fair number of acorns stored in dust under the bark of this tree.

14 April 1130. Bird here, but noone in the holes.

19 April 1100. " " " " " " "

21 April 1420. Bird in the (new) higher hole. Time to check again.

22 April 1500. Checked the (new) hole: 3 fresh eggs.

30 April 1430. 5 eggs now, incubated. Only measured the 2 new ones: ④ 26.2 × 20.6 ⑤ 25.0 × 19.7. Does Joey have the measurements for the others, or did I not take them on the 22nd?

Still stores here.

29 May 1215. Checked 2nd nest: 1 baby, not weighed but certainly 2-3 days old, plus 4 unhatched eggs, 2 developed and 2 not.

Even if those last 2 hatch, I think they're too late. Only 1 kid a possibility here!

There are still stores here.

16 June 1100. Banded & bled the single kid. There are stores remaining, by the way.

8 October 600. Got 2 birds in the upper hole this morning - ♀1325 and a ♂ NOBA. Presumably the latter replaced ♂1525, but it's not clear he's gone as yet.* We'll see... *see Michael's notes.

1995 Walter D Koenig
1996

Melanerpes formicivorus

Refuted MNHR

28 April 1030. Checked nest here (new hole in VC snag facing Coral Vine) 5 eggs.

23 May Banded & bled the 3 kids here.

26 May Watched roosting here tonight: ♂ Nv/M #1525 roosted for sure in the nest.

11 July 1300. Banded & bled the 4 kids here (2nd nest). There are at least a few stores remaining in the tree here!

1996

5 January 1200. There are a few stored acorns in the granary here, as well as at least 1 bird, who I flushed when I walked over here.

28 May 1330. Watching.
1400. Watch was noteable only for producing absolutely zippo in the woodpecker arena.

1997
1998

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Central ~~Refuge~~ Canyon

HNHR

27 March 1515. New hole! 4 eggs, incubated. I measured two: ①26.1 × 19.1; ② 26.7 × 19.0.

2 April 1315. 4 babies, 1 (maybe 2) days old.

10 April 1315. Still 4 (healthy) babies. Weighed one: 36.3gm (est 9 days old).

11 April 1105. Gets the rooster tonight: ♂ band #2209 for sure. 910. I take a look. No I leave. 2 birds approach, fly out of the hole! I sit back up but none return by 1130. Apparently the birds are more wary. Are they old enough to make it? I'll check tomorrow and see!

12 April Joey checked the nest this morning. It was indeed apparently untended all night, and the babies did not make it. Bummer. I guess I'd best not try to get roosters until later on in the nesting cycle, although I really don't understand how I could have scared them off - especially since I think one of them ended up roosting above they had somewhere.

We did at least get blood. It certainly demonstrates what I'd always suspected: They have to coordinate roosting in the nest perfectly - one missing and they're done for until the kits can thermoregulate on their own.

1998

11 May 1040. Checked nest: 2 hatchlings, 2 developed eggs. Band ~1 June. There are still stores here. Measured 1 egg: 24.0 × 19.5.

1999 | Walter D Koenig

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Melanerpes formicivorus

	Central Canyon	
		Nest
27 April	1300. Stores! Yes! Bird in nest: Yes!	
11 May	1230. Checked nest: 3 babies, ~5-6 to. Band ~26 May	
26 May	1300. Banded & Wed the 3 kids. Stores: Yes.	
23 June	Still some stores left.	
6 July	Stores: Yes	

1993
1994
1995

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

1500 HNHP

25 January 1600. Counted stores: Main tree: 2909 } 3161.
2° tree: 252 }

There are a lot of acorns in the main tree here. No obvious depletion as of yet!

27 April 1445. Checked the traditional hole: 4 fresh eggs. (Bird in hole.) Also, there are quite a few stores remaining here. (This is also a supplemented group.)

1994

20 January 1450. Counted stores: Main tree: 2300 } 2544.
2° tree : 244. }

Granary is doing well but is not completely full. Birds may have started to make a serious dent in it already.

30 April 1315. Opened the traditional hole - 4 eggs, incubated.
Sizes: ① 26.2 × 21.0 ② 24.9 × 20.8 ③ 25.4 × 21.2 ④ 25.5 × 21.0
There are still stored acorns here also.

27 May 1300. Banded & bled the 3 babies here. Some stores still here.

1995

5 February 1530. Counted stores: Main tree: 2570 } 2638.
2° tree: 68 }

Granary is basically full; the 2nd ary tree is not, however. Capacity is pretty much the same as last year, I'd say.

7 May ♀1609, caught at the nest by Joey yesterday, was released up at Rancho San Carlos this morning. She is marked with green on her forehead in case she comes back. Eggs are just hatching (yesterday).

Melanerpes formicivorus

1500 HNHR

8 May Power struggle here this morning! Jim watching. I came down about 945 and saw 10+ birds a good amount of chasing. Jim reports no activity at nest so I checked it: 3 dead babies + 1 unhatched, fertile egg that had been pecked at & broken. The latter is the only potential evidence for infanticide, I fear, as the kids were intact.

1130. Watching with net up. ① ♀ M/Or-DB #2502 3 ♀♀ in Tree #2! ② Red/Or Wh-Or/M #2507 ③ ♀ DB-Or/Or-DB #2502 (?) ♂ DB-Or/Or-DB also ③ ♀ WGate LB/LG #2505 — 3 sisters from WGate here! ♂2471 here!

In main tree: ♀ DB-Wh(N)/DB #2330. (Sch Hill). Presumably some subset or all of the School Hill helper ♀♀ (there are 7!) here winning. ② ♀ Or/M #2567 (SHill).

1210. Caught ♂2471 in net - bled w/in 5 min for Plasma and released.

Jim's seen several more of the Sch Hill ♀♀. - 5 appear to have been seen (♀♀ 2210, 2330, 2555, 2556, 1257).

1230. ♂ in Tree 2: ♂ Red/DB M/ ? ♂ DG/Wh-Red M/Or #2471.

3♂ are mostly with the SH ♀♀ in Tree #1, coming to visit the WGate ♀♀ in Tree #2 occasionally. Still going well at 1245.

1315. 8 birds get together in tree #1: looks like 5 ♀♀ & 3 ♂♂, most likely the 5 Sch. Hill ♀♀

26 May 930 Watching. All quiet. There are still stores here. ① ♀ Blk/LP Red/M ♀ 2210 (from Sch Hill). ② ♂ Red/DB #1901 ③ ? DB-Wh(N)/DB #2330 (♀) going into hole! ④ ♂ DB/M #2473 (submissive to ♂1901). ⑤ ♀ LP/M #2556. At least 3 of the SHill ♀♀ still here!

Melanerpes formicivorus

1500 HNHR

(26 May) ⑥♂M/Or #2471. ⑦♀Or-DB/DB-Or #2567 (SHill). Make that at least 4 of the SchHill ♀♀ here.

1035. Leaving. SchHill ♀♀ clearly have won and moved in here; at least 4 and maybe all 5. All 3 ♂♂ are still here; ♀2472, the daughter, is most likely gone.

♀♀ are interested in the hole and could try to nest fairly soon - might be fun to watch them try!

4 June 1200. Bird in hole! Checked it: 4 fresh eggs, (1 a runt). I marked them - if nothing else we should be able to get an idea about how many ♀♀ are laying here.

5 June 730. In blind. ♀ in hole. (♂ now looking out of hole.

752. ♀ left. ♂ Red/DB #1901 near hole.)

756. ♂ left. Now third bird (a ♀) looking out. 757. Leaves. Hole now empty?

812. ♀ Wh/Lght #2556 in tree

830. ♀ DG/LP #2210 enters hole. ♂ DG/Yel-Red #2471 here.

840. ♀ Red/Yel #2555 in tree.

852. ♂ ~~Or/DB~~ Or/DB #1901 enters hole. ♀ now looking out. ♂ DB/M #2473 in tree.

900. Going to check the nest.

920.! 5 eggs - all 4 from yesterday + 1 new fresh one (marked #5). These birds continue to surprise me. Is there really only 1 ♀ laying here? (No! See 7 June)

6 June 1145. Checked hole: 3 eggs! 1 new (marked #6) and 2 from 4 June (both normal). This is getting interesting after all! 3 (inc. the runt) have been tossed.

7 June 615. Watching nest. ♀ looking out.

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1500 HNHR

(7 June) 645. ♀ left. In tree: ♀ DG/M #2380. ← Definitely here.

647. ♀ DB-W(N)/DB #2330 enters. 650. ♂ 1901 enters. 651. ♀ leaves. 654. ♂ leaves. 656. ♀ 2330 enters. 701. ♂ DB/M #2473 comes to hole, leaves w/o entering. 706. ♂ 2473 enters. ♀ LP/M 2556 here (but not in hole) ♀ 2330 looks out, leaves. 710. ♂ leaves.

716. ♂ 1901 enters. 733. ♀ 2210 enters, leaves almost right away. ♂ LO. 737. ♀ 2330 looks in, leaves. ♂ leaves. 738. ♂ 2471 enters. 754. ♂ leaves.

757. ♂ 2473 enters. 801. ♂ 1901 comes to hole, ♂ 2473 leaves, chattering submissively, ♂ 1901 enters. 802. ♀ 2330 enters, ♂ leaves. 805. ♂ 2471 enters.

808. ? Or/Yell #2555 in tree.

811. ♂ 1901 comes to hole, ♂ 2471 leaves, chattering submissively, ♂ 1901 enters.

815. Going to check hole. Note: since 645, the only ♀ to have been in the hole for more than a few seconds is ♀ 2330. She's the only one who could really have laid an egg.

830. OK. Hole still has 3 eggs (Measured, see below), but! The one marked #6 also has an "X" scrawled on the end (as do the other 2 – this is how I marked the eggs on 4 June). So! In fact, here's what's apparently happened here:

Size			4 June	5 June	6 June	7 June
		Egg 1	Runt. ---	Still here	(Gone)	
25.5 × 18.9	[Has small dent]	Egg 2	Here ---	Here ---	Here ---	Still here
25.1 × 19.4		Egg 3	Here ---	" ---	Here ---	" "
26.5 × 19.7	[Marked #6 on 6 June]	Egg 4	Here ---	" ---	Here ---	" "
		Egg 5		Laid today	(Gone)	

So – the only egg definitely tossed (besides the runt) is the one laid on 5 June

1995 Walter D Koenig
1996

Melanerpes formicivorus

1500 HNHR

9 June 1045. Checked nest (bird in hole) only 1 egg left — and the dented one at that! It's developing (opaque) but somehow I wouldn't put much money on this particular attempt.

12 June 1430. Checked hole: empty.

1996

3 January 1430. No sign that Group apparently deserted! Long out, particularly since 1950 nest tree is actually doing reasonably well (but not lived...). Too bad!

19 April 1515. There's a fresh pecking in the traditional nest hole here; what will the birds do?

1997
1998
1999

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

1500 WWR

30 March 1530. Bird in the traditional hole.

31 March 1200. Opened it: nothing yet; still needs some cleaning.

10 April 1100. Checked nest: 4 eggs, incubated. ⌀ 26.2 × 18.6.

8 May 1100. Banded & bled the 3 babies: 2787-2789.
Plenty of stored acorns left here.

9 June 1315. 4 eggs (2nd nest). Same hole. Plenty of stores.

9 July 830. Banded the 1 kid. Still stores here.

1998

22 April Plenty of stores and one fine fat badger here, but noone in any holes except (!) a Starling.

23 April Cleared the Starling nest out of the hole.

1999

13 April 1500. Good number of stores remaining. Noone in any holes, however.

1993
1994

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

1800 HNHP

25 January 1530. Counted stores: Main tree: 1912 } 2092
2° tree: 180

Doing pretty well. Granary is about as full as it's likely to ever be.

24 April 1600. Still acorns here. Checked the hole in the 2° granary: a Screech Owl! I couldn't reach the bottom, but I don't think there was anything else in there (the birds had been hanging out in/near this hole).

5 May 1430. Opened the new next hole (in the main granary), where there are 4 eggs.

9 July Some stores remaining.

1994

20 January 1430. Counted stores: Main tree: 1790 } 1960
2° tree 170

Granary is pretty full.

30 April 1330. Last year's nest hole has 5 fresh eggs. Sizes are:
① 25.5 × 19.1 ② 25.0 × 18.9 ③ 24.3 × 18.6 ④ 24.2 × 18.6 ⑤ 22.8 × 18.6.
Plenty of stores remaining.

29 May 1525. Set up to try and get the NOBA helper ♂ at the nest.
1600. Birds have been in the tree for some time, but still no feeds.
1620. Finally a feeding visit by ① ♀ R-W/M #787.
1635. ② ♀ M/DBlue #2273 in tree. ③ ♂ Red/DB-W(N) #2340 came to hole with food but did not enter or feed.
Still plenty of stores here, by the way.
1715. Quitting for now. Things are awfully quiet at the nest, although I presume it is active.

Melanerpes formicivorus

1800 HNHR

30 May 630. Trying again.

650. ① ♀ (DB-Yd(N)) Mr #2273 fed. ② ♀ 787 in tree.

730. Stanback just drove out - ~~head~~ leaving for the last time and heading back to Seattle. Bummer!

745. Birds are flycatching in the tree but not feeding. Plus, I'm way too depressed to keep going. I'm going up to check the nest and (if they indeed exist) band the babies.

845. Well, I started to go up, only to hear babies in the nest, so I retreated, sought a bit of consolation from Janis, and returned with a porto-blind, which I've now set up in a bit farther away.

955. Got a bird feeding, but boy was I screwed up - it was #2273!. So I let her go and took out the 2 (!) babies to band them.

2 June 840. Jeremy saw the ♂NOBA feed several times yesterday, so I'm back to try for him again.

950. Got him!

29 July 1600.! Mary found a nest w/ old kids high in a Valley Oak over near the creek. Came down to get it. One kid flew (well!) immediately upon trying to throw a string up. Rats. Got a 2nd, now #2554. So: fledged 2, (1 NOBA). If this is day 31, then hatching was ~ 29 June and LED 18 June.

24 December 700. An ambush in the rain at the granary nest hole! Got 4 birds, including yet 1 more juv NOBA, presumably from the late July nest (now 4, I believe). (+ 3 others)

1995 Walter D Koenig
1996

Melanerpes formicivorus

1800 HNHR

9 May 1530. Checked nest, in last year's (granary) hole: 5 eggs, incubated. Measured one: 24.4 × 18.9 mm.

15 May 1430. Checked hole: 3 babies, 2-3 do, no eggs.

4 June 1230. Banded & bled the 3 kids here.

1996

3 January 1430. Counted stores: Main tree: 1575 } 1575
2° tree: 0

The main tree is actually pretty full. I think the 2° tree has lost most or all of its holes; otherwise, there would probably be some there as well.

19 April 1530. Still stores left here. None in any holes, though...

1997
1998
1999

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

1800 HN/HR

8 May 1015. Bird in hole (same as last year): 3 eggs, fresh. Measured 2: ① 23.9 × 18.7 ② 26.6 × 18.4.

14 May 1315. Still 3 eggs, now incubated.

9 June 1230. 1 baby, 1 egg (③ 25.0 × 19.1). Banded the kid.

[illegible] 2 dead eggs. Still young here for [illegible] see Joey's notes

25 July 1200. Nest empty. No sign of anything.

1998

22 April Plenty of stores, but noone in any holes.

1999

13 April 1500. Lots of stores. No one in holes, though.

30 April 1000. Checked hole: empty. Egg-tossing?

1994
1995 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Horsetail

HNHR

21 January 1115. No stores here. Presumably no group, either.

1995

24 April 1400. Came by here to show Jim and found stores! A fair number of them no less! There is a group here.

25 April Jim watched and saw 2 birds (♀ banded) and evidence of a nest in the granary. So I checked it this afternoon, but it was empty. (It's a new hole).

3 May 1230. Bird in hole! Joey checked it: still empty!

12 May 1345. This time 4 (fresh) eggs. Measured 1: 24.4 × 18.2 mm. Hole fell apart - I pieced it back together but I'd be very wary about opening it again! (until banding, at any rate).

24 May 1015. Checked nest, where the kids have hatched (and are very young). I didn't open the hole, so I couldn't be sure, but there are certainly 2 kids plus, I think, 1 unhatched egg. It's possible, though, that there are 3 kids.

31 May 1500. Kid(s) OK. Set up autrisher

3 June 1440. Set up to catch the ♂ here.
1540. Got him!

12 June 1500. Banded and bled the 2 kids here, both of which were big & healthy.

There are, strangely enough, some stored acorns left in the tree here.

1996

3 January 1410. No stores here or sign of life.

1997 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Horsetail HWHC

12 May 1945. Watched roosting here tonight. Basically I neither saw nor heard any birds in the area. There was at least one bird up the side of School Hill; ~~[illegible]~~ best I could tell he/she headed up toward Sch. Hill West to roost. (This suggests that the birds I keep seeing in this area are SHWest birds rather than Horsetail birds.) Whether there's even anyone here at this point or not would even seem questionable. Birds certainly pass through regularly, but there's precious little evidence to indicate that someone really lives here at the moment, much less has a nest. (There are a few acorns still in the granary, but that's about it.)

1993
1994

Walter D. Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Hay-Blom — HNHR

29 January — 1600. Counted stores: 4013. The tree here is loaded, so much so that it's hard to count. Tree is full, however.

3 April — 1100. Lots of acorns still stored here.

27 April — 1400. Opened a new, rotten hole I found yesterday in one of the trees between the granary and Soto Springs. It's empty, but in good shape.

30 April — 900. Birds around, but noone in the new hole I found.

8 May — 1300. Birds roosting in the new hole several days ago, but nobody in it when I went by to check today.

13 May — 1000. Watched for ½ hr or so. No sign of guarding or a nest. Birds just sitting & eating acorns in the granary.

20 May — 1115. Bird in the new hole, finally.

25 May — 1545. 4 eggs, opaque but clean (so maybe early-mid incubation?)

31 May — 1630. 3 babies, chunky (~5 do?) Band ~ 17 June. IEI ~ 15 May.

9 July — Stores remaining (plenty)

1994

20 January — 1100. Fixed the nest hole (opening had fallen out). Counted stores: 1918. Singularly unimpressive for this group; I estimate no more than 60% full.

1 April — 1200. Bird in hole (HNHR tree facing granary - old nest hole) 1700. Opened hole - empty (but in good shape).

12 April — 1100. Stores remaining, but still noone in the hole (or any others). Birds are hanging around the area, however.

3 May — 1545. Noone in any holes. Watching for a bit. 1615. Birds here - seem to be doing absolutely nothing.

1994 Walter D Koenig
1995
1996

Melanerpes formicivorus

Hay-Blom HNHR

(3 May) 1619.! Bird now in the old nest hole on HNHR side facing fence! That should be it!

4 May Joey checked the hole: 6 eggs, a couple days old. For measurements, see Joey's notes.

29 May 1400. Finally checked the hole: 4 kids. ① Yel 83.0 (44) ② Wh 81.5 (44) ③ LB 73.1 (42) ④ NOBA 64.8 (33)

5 June 1100. Banded & 6 let the 4 kids.

21 July Still stores here.

1995

12 April 1445. Checked holes. Also; there are plenty of stores left here, although the granary is not particularly full - perhaps only 1/3 or so.

26 May 1115. Still a few stores here. No sign of a nest, though.

4 June 1300. Several birds up along the fenceline on the way up, including ♂ LB-Yel wn #1857.

1996

5 January 1430. Counted stores: 100. Pretty low, but it's a record for the year! (save Hague).

19 April 1545. These birds are out of stores! Also, noone in any holes. I even watched for a bit, but didn't see zippo.

24 April Opened the new hole in the Hastings tree, which was way deep (not a likely nest hole) and set an ambush there. Also, cleaned out the old nest hole, which had the beginnings of a Starling nest in it.

29 April 1930. There were 5 birds here tonight, only 1 of which

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Hay-Blom — [illegible]

(29 April) Was definitely an intruder. Unpaired, only 5 appeared to engage in pre-roost socializing, so who knows what's up with the 4th? In any case, they roosted in a new hole in the sycamore poison oak tree just west from the grassy (see map).

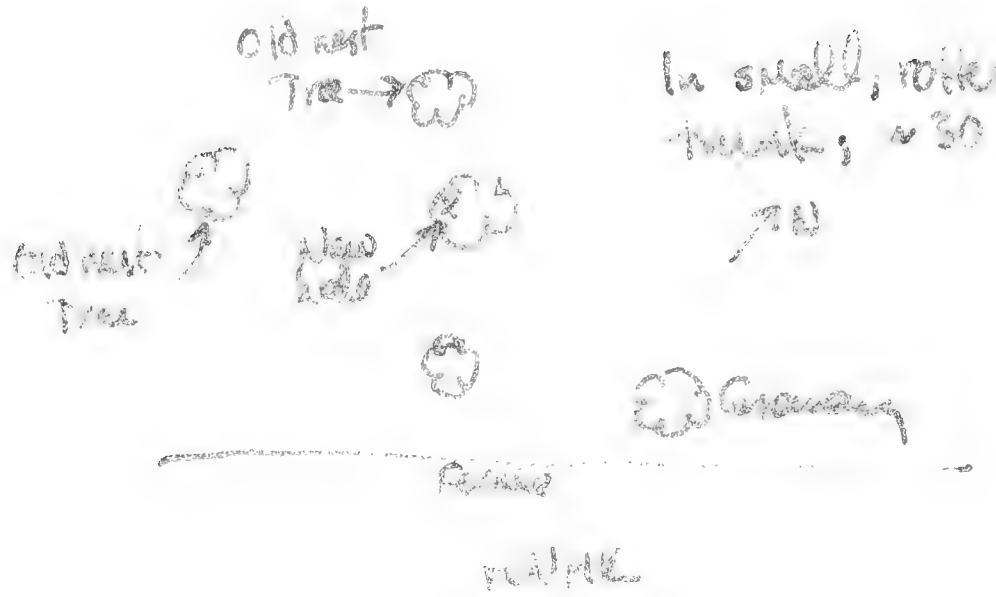
4 May 530. No ambush at the new hole; got 2 of the 3, including 8185 t and the male 9, now 9-2 t.

13 May Power struggle up here - apparently 9. Caught 3 birds (or 2, anyway).

14 May 900. Ambushed at the roost hole in the Hastings tree, where there was apparently 1 bird, she outlasted us - refusing to come out (except when she could climb back in the hole) by 900!

14 October A nest! In a new hole over in the Valley Oak just down from the 2nd hole in the fence. And the big surprise is: 4 kids! About 28 days old.

29 April 1996
New roost hole



In small, rotten limb facing trunk; ~30 ft up; W side of tree.

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Melanerpes formicivorus

Hay-Blom HNHR

22 April 1150. Found it: a new hole in one of the big VOaks down below the granary.

1500. Opened it: empty. But a bird was in it again, so I'd say they are going to use it. This hole is way up there...

26 April 1600. Checked the hole (noone in it). Empty still. But it looks real nice!

28 April 1500. Peeped the hole: still empty, best I could tell.

6 May 1430. Bird in hole. Finally! 6 eggs, not fresh.

8 May 1000. Still 6 eggs. Measured one: 26.1 × 19.2. Looked pretty early in incubation still.

9 June 1100. Banded & bled the 4 babies here.

[illegible] 1100. Banded 4 (three) kids in one [illegible] nest. Kids are ~27 days old. LHD is ~28 July. There are still adults here.

1998

29 April Stores remaining here.

1999

13 April 1445. Power struggle! 8-10 birds with good activity. Also lots of stores left and a Starling in last year's nest hole!

Not sure what sex is at stake here.

19 April 1100. Cleaned out a Starling nest from the '98 hole (w/ 4 eggs). Still signs of a power struggle here.

6 July Stores looks like they're out. No ☡ [illegible] there are a few stores left here.

1993
1994

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Lower Haystack — HNHR

29 January — Counted stores: Main tree: 1814 } 2184
2° tree: 370 }

Not particularly impressive for this group. Granary, in fact, is only haphazardly stuffed with acorns, certainly not more than ½ filled. What's going on up here?

3 April — 1100. Acorns remaining here - lots.

24 April — 1430. Bird in traditional hole in the granary. Checked it: 6 fresh eggs, 4 of which are regular, 1 of which is quite small but still normal, and 1 of which is a definite runt.

27 April — 1400. Bird in hole: still 6 eggs including the runt. Eggs warm.

25 May — 1500. Banded & bled the 4 babies here.

9 July — Stores remaining (plenty)

1994

20 January — 1100. Counted stores: ~~1918~~. Not particularly full, but in decent shape.
4250 { 3735 (Main tree) / 515 (2° tree) } I est. ~80% full.

23 May — 1630. Checked for 2nd nest: only sign was a bird flushed from or near the traditional hole (1st nest hole), but I checked it and it is empty.
Plenty of stores left here.

29 May — 1410. Bird in the hole again, but - it's still empty (!)

5 June — 1050. This time: 6 eggs, fairly fresh. ① 25.8 × 20.1 ② 25.5 × 20.5 ③ 25.6 × 21.2 ④ 25.5 × 20.5 ⑤ 25.2 × 21.0 ⑥ 25.0 × 21.4

21 July — Unsurprisingly, there are still stores here.

1995
1996

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Melanerpes formicivorus

Lower Haystack — HNHR

12 April — 1500. Bird in hole in granary! Checked: 6 eggs, incubated. Granary here has a fair number of stores still, although once again, not as many as one might have expected. Tree is perhaps ½ full, no more.

17 April — Joey checked today, and found 7 eggs!!?! What happened? Could I have missed the 7th? He claimed none were runts (none of the 6 seemed so to me...). Hmm. Strange.

8 June — 1200. Bird in (same) hole! Checked it: 8 eggs. First of any 2nd nests this year (and maybe the only one!)

13 June — 1400. Still 8 eggs, incubated. Measured one: 25.2 x 20.5. Plenty of stores here.

20 June — 1550. Checked nest: 6 kids, no eggs; 1 kid a runt no doubt on his way out. I weighed one of the other 5: 13.9 gms, making him probably 3 days old. (Band 8 July).

1996

5 January — 1415. Counted stores: Maintree: 925 } 925
2° tree: 0 }

Pretty pathetic for this group, but it's still about the best going so far!

10 April — Some stores remaining here. But not a lot.

19 April — 1535. Noone in any holes. Looks like a new one over by the saddle, however.

13 May — 930. At least 3 birds here, but noone in any holes.

14 May — 900. Checked the traditional hole (Joey had seen a bird in it earlier), but it's empty.

23 May — 1400. 4 eggs, not hatched yet.

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Melanerpes formicivorus

Lower Haystack — HNHR

2 April — 1430. Bird in the traditional hole. Empty, but it's cleaned out and ready to go.

22 April — 1130. Checked the nest: 5 eggs (+ 7 acorns!?). Measured one: 23.5 × 19.2.

28 April — 1430. 2 hatchlings + 3 eggs, all just starting to pip. Will all probably hatch. Band ~19 May.

6 May — 1145. Here set up to try and catch the ♀.
1415. Shit! Missed her. Giving up for today.

7 May — 1230. Finally got her. Now ♀2777.

1998

29 April — Lots of stores left.

1999

13 April — 1500. Lots of stores left.

11 May — 1115. Bird in traditional hole. 5 eggs, 1 a runt (!) Fresh. Measured one: 23.9 × 19.7 mm

6 July — Stores: Yes

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Melanerpes formicivorus

Blomone HNHP

3 April 1130. No stores here! Is there still a group around?
1140. Upon closer inspection, there may be a very few stored acorns remaining. In any case, a bird is here flycatching in the granary.

29 April 1200. This time I found a few stored acorns, but only a few.

25 May 1615. Checked the holes: 3 eggs, not opaque.

11 June 1500. Banded the 3 babies. They are [illegible] other nests.
I could not find any remaining stores.

1994

1 February 900. Granary is not packed by any means, but has a fair number of stores. Tree is probably ~~[illegible]~~ 50% full.

14 April 1120. Still stores. Noone in any holes, however.

19 April 1105. Noone in holes.

9 July 1600. Quite a few stores left here.

1995

24 May 1200. Still no sign of a nest here. Some stores still here, though.

1996

5 January 1500. There are a few acorns stored here, but not a lot — 200 - 300 at most, I'd say.

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1998

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Blomone — HNHR

2 April — 1330. Bird in lower hole in main granary, I'm pretty sure.

3 April — 1100. Opened the hole: 3 eggs, clear but dirty (?). Measured one: 26.2 × 19.2. Also cleared out a Starling nest in the upper (opened) hole with 6 eggs.

8 April — 1000. Checked hole: still 3 eggs, warmer, still translucent (but warm). I think they're incubating, but that the eggs are all infertile. Next check we should pull them if there isn't any improvement.

10 April — 1300. Still 3 eggs, but they finally look opaque and incubated, so I left them.

2 September — 1500. Banded & bled the 2 babies in the fall nest! It's in the old hole way out on the limb facing toward Red Hill. The kids are ~13 days old, yielding an estimated LED of 9 August. They are #2956 & 2957.

1998

25 April — 1100. Birds are very interested in something here, but noone in a hole. Lots of stores.

18 May — 1400. Found the nest! In a new hole in a new tree, very near the granary (toward the road). I think they've been working on it - there's lots of wood chips on the limb below it. In any case, they have very young babies (hole needs opening). Band ~ 7 June.

19 May — 1000. Opened the hole: 3 babies, 2-3 do. (1 smaller; possibly only 2 will make it).

1999 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Blowore HNHR

13 April 1400. A modest number of stores left. Noone in any holes, however.

15 June 1[illegible] Out of stores. Still no sign of a nest.

1993 Walter D Koenig
1994

Melanerpes formicivorus

Blomtwo HN/HR

3 April — No stores or sign of birds here.

29 April — 1110. A pair of birds checking this place out. Both were banded.

1994

1 February — 900. Granary has acorns! Is at least 50% full, and I flushed a bird upon arrival. There is a group here.

12 April — 910. Stores remaining here. Noone in any holes, though.

19 April — 1130. Noone in holes. Even checked the new hole, but ~~no~~ nothing in it. (It's in good, but not perfect shape, with some junk in the bottom.)

21 April — 1430. Zilch.

18 May — 1630. Noone in any holes. Also, no stores remaining! This group has been supplemented with dog food, but I think this is one of the groups where crows have probably been eating almost all of it.

30 May — 1700. Watched the Starling nest here for about an hour, but saw no sign of woodpeckers. Is the group even still here? There's not much indication that they are...

I take it back - 2-3 birds just greeted each other over toward the pond. They're probably here after all.

1745. One of the birds looks like he just flew over (toward?)(to?) Blomore. They may not belong here after all. No telling, since with no stores one wouldn't necessarily expect them to hang out in the granary that much.

1995 Walter D Koenig
1996

Melanerpes formicivorus

Blomtwo HNHR

1 May 1400. We know there are birds here, but the group is pretty much out of acorns.

24 May Still no sign of a nest.

1996

5 January 1430. No sites here; presumably deserted

1997 Walter D Koenig
1998

Melanerpes formicivorus

Blomtuzo HNHR

30 March 1330. Bird in new hole

2 April 1400. Bird in hole again; opened it, empty but close.

8 April 1030. Bird in hole, but it's still empty. There are stores here, by the way.

~~1 July 1100. No stores 1/4~~

1998

10 April The granary here fell sometime during the winter storms. Group is gone, and presumably defunct.

1993
1994
1995

Walter D. Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Bluethree

HA/HR

28 April — Stores still remaining. The curved nest tree (~50m toward L.C. from traditional tree) has fallen within the past month or so.

29 April — 1115. A bird flushed from the granary.

30 April — 915. Bird in the traditional hole.

5 June — 1530. Banded & bled the 3 babies. Stores still remaining. (A few, at least.)

17 July — Almost, if not already, out of stores.

1994

1 February — 910. Granary is fairly full - certainly 1000+ stores here.

12 April — 930. Still stores remaining here. Noone in any holes. Took down the Starling box in the traditional nest tree.

21 April — 1435. ♀ Mauve/Or-Wh #2292. Bird flushed from traditional hole.

22 April — 1530. Checked hole: 5 eggs, fresh. Measurements: ① 25.1 × 19.3 ② 24.1 × 19.5 ③ 24.5 × 19.2 ④ 24.7 × 19.6 ⑤ 23.8 × 18.4. (laid 23 April) ⑥ 24.4 × 18.4

30 April — 1500. Checked hole: 6 eggs, incubated. Still stores here.

27 May — 1100. Banded & bled the 5 kids here. Still plenty of stores.

9 July — 1530. Some stores still here.

1995

24 May — Still plenty of stores here & no sign of a nest. Note that the top of the traditional tree has recently fallen, taking with it the old double-hole (used most recently last year).

1995 Walter D Koenig
1996

Melanerpes formicivorus

Blomthree HNHR

17 June 1000. Not more than a week ago I climbed up to the old holes here and did what I could to "close off" the top, which had broken off, hoping that this might make the lower hole useable. And voilá! There is now a bird in the hole!!

20 June 1615. Checked the hole - empty! Bummer—

1996

5 January 1445. Cavity is at most ¼ full here - but at least there's something here.

30 April 1400. Bird in shot's left of the traditional holes. Also, no stores left.

28 May 1445. Noone in any holes.

1997
1998

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Blorthree — HHAR

30 March — 1430. Bird in hole (old hole in traditional tree). Opened it: 1 egg, fresh: 24.5 × 17.4 mm. (May be more than one – I couldn't quite get to the bottom)

2 April — 1400. Bird in hole.

3 April — 1145. Peeped the hole: 5 eggs, apparently incubated

8 April — 1145. Still 5 eggs, incubated.

30 June — 1615. 3 eggs, incubated (2nd set) (D 26.4 × 19.3). Still stores here.

9 July — 1100. 2 babies, ~5 d.o. Still acorns here. Band ~25 July.

29 July — 1400. Banded the 2 kids here (#2947-2948). Still stores.

1998

10 April — The granary here fell during the winter storms. However, the birds still exist and have shifted at least some of their focus to Dark Hollow!

25 April — Birds hanging out here. One seemed to fly out of last year's nest hole, so I checked it: I couldn't reach the bottom so I wasn't positive, but I'm pretty sure it's empty.

Even though their granary is kaput, they actually have some stores here in the tree back a bit in the forest!

30 April — 900. Bird in hole!

11 May — 1145. 5 babies, ~3 days old (1 fading). Band ~29 May.

18 May — 1345. Dead babies in nest. Exposure/abandoned.

1999 Walter D Koenig

1

Melanerpes formicivorus

Bloothree

13 April 1415. ♀M/DGlue #7. In nut tree. A few stores left here in the side area (old granary is defunct).

Stores: out.

1993
1994

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Gazebo

HNHP

13 May — 1000. Bird in hole (same as used last couple years). There are stores remaining here also.

14 May — 910. Peeped hole: 4 eggs, not fresh (I don't think).

19 June — 1400. Banded the 3 babies. There are still a very few stores here.

17 July — 1300. Fledgling in the hole. Also, I believe they are out of acorns here for all practical purposes.

1994

1 February — 920. Granary limbs are quite full here. Certainly 2000+ stores.

19 April — 1140. Plenty of stores remaining. Noone in any of the easy holes.

21 April — 1445. 3 birds flushed from an opened hole over toward CVGrande near the trench (just as it goes down). Birds flushed toward CVGrande - could be them??
1450. ≥2 birds in last year's nest hole.

22 April — 1630. Checked hole: empty. At least 3 birds flushed on arrival, though.

29 May — 1300. Checked hole: 4 babies + 1 unhatched egg.
① LB (25.8) ② Or (31.1) ③ Yel (26.3) ④ NOBA (20.2) unh. egg: 24.1×18.3
Plenty of stores remaining.

12 June — 1200. Banded & bled the 4 kids.

1995
1996

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Gazebo

HNHR

12 April 1520. Checked holes. Also, there are stores here, but not very many - possibly only a few hundred.

28 June Out of stores here.

[illegible]

5 January [illegible] stores are at least ½-full here; not too bad, considering.

8 May 1530. Bird in hole: 7 eggs (1 runt), fresh. Measured them all: ① 25.8 × 19.5, ② 24.2 × 19.0, ③ 26.4 × 20.4, ④ 23.9 × 19.1 ⑤ 25.0 × 19.5 ⑥ 19.7 × 15.0 ← runt ⑦ 25.6 × 20.0.

12 August [illegible] Jay [illegible] hole this morning, so we checked it: 7 eggs, including a runt. Fairly fresh. Left [illegible] for [illegible]: 10 August. For measurements & eggs see [illegible]. Counted the entire [illegible] this [illegible].

1997
1998

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Gazebo — HNHR

3 April — 1130. Cleaned a Starling nest (3 eggs) out of the traditional hole here.

8 April — 1100. Bird apparently in a hole over in The Blue Oak on the other side of the pond. I pulled off a lot of the poison oak growing around the tree so it can be climbed next time.

10 April — 1245. Bird in the hole across the pond again. Opened it: 7 eggs, fresh. Measured them: ① 23.9 × 18.8 ② 25.5 × 18.9 ③ 24.3 × 18.9 ④ 25.0 × 19.4 ⑤ 23.9 × 18.8 ⑥ 22.8 × 17.3 ⑦ 24.4 × 19.5.

12 June — 1200. Checked up on the 2nd nest, which is hatching. They have 4 babies - one of which is dead already - and 2 eggs. (1) 24.0 × 18.9. Will probably end up with 3 babies.

1998

25 April — 1100. Opened the hole (same as 1st nest in 1997): 1 fresh (normal) egg. I bet they're egg-tossing.

Lots of stores. I also cleaned out a Starling nest from the old nest hole in the central area.

29 April — 1530. 5 eggs! Apparently they are not joint-nesting here. In any case, I took one of the eggs, which happened to measure 24.8 × 19.1 mm. (only 4 left).

11 May — 1125. 3 hatchings + 4 infertile (or at least undeveloped) eggs. They were joint-nesting here after all, apparently. Band: 1 June.

1999 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Gazebo HNHR

13 April 1430. A good number of stores left here. Noone in any holes, however.

11 May 1130. Bird in hole (Fos-wn/or #2283). (Hole by Vernal Pool).

12 May 1215. ~~Opened~~ Checked the hole: 5 eggs, incubated. Measured two: ⊙ 24.7 × 18.6 ⊙ 25.5 × 19.7.

8 May 1145. 4 babies 23.00, + 1 unhatched egg (infertile). Bound ~6 June.

6 July Stores: Yes (lot).

1994
1995

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Los Arbolitas — HNHR

20 May — This new group, wedged in between CV Ceramic and Gazebo, had a nest with 8 eggs! Today at 1045 I checked it for hatching. 5 eggs had hatched; possibly yesterday. The other 3 (#2, 7, 8) were all developed and may still hatch. #2, a very small egg that I might even have thought a runt, is even pipping.

Babies were too small to put bands on.

25 May — 1700. 5 babies + egg #2, pipped but unhatched.

① LB (22.8) ② Blk (23.9) ③ Or (24.8) ④ LP (24.5) ⑤ NOBA (17.1)

9 June — 1330. Banded & bled the 5 kids.

15 June — Jeremy reports that they are feeding acorns at the nest here!

7 October — 615. Ambushed the nest hole this morning, nabbing 6 birds — 2 adults and 4 of the spring kids! Where do they all hang out??

1995

12 April — 1530. As reported by the winter FAs, these birds do have a granary — the large YO just across the fence (and on the S side of the road) from F Troop. There are at least a couple of hundred acorns still in it. None in last year's nest hole, however.

1 May — Still stores here. No nest yet, though.

24 May — 1140. Checked nest (in same hole): 3 babies, all about the same. One weighed in at 15.2 gm ≅ 4 days (maybe only 3). Still some stores here.

1997
1998
1999

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Los Arbolitas — HNHR

16 April — 1500. Checked the hole (2 birds flew out): still empty.

9 July — 1030. No birds in hole, but fecal are still around here.

1998

25 April — 1200. Checked traditional hole after seeing a bird in it yesterday: 1 runt egg (fresh)!
There are stored acorns remaining here.

29 April — 1600. Only 3 eggs! Measured one: 24.6 × 19.4 mm.
est hatch date: 8 May.

19 May — 1015. 3 babies, ~ 8 d old (eyes not open). Band ~ 1 June.

1999

13 April — 1430. A good number of stores here. Noone in the hole, though.

11 May — 1200. Bird in traditional hole: 3 eggs, dirty but undeveloped. Infertile?
Measured them: ① 24.4 × 19.9 ② 23.5 × 20.5 ③ 27.1 × 21.3
Quite a range in size!

6 July — Stores: yes.

1993 Walter D. Koenig
1994

Melanerpes formicivorus

CV Grange — HNHE

10 July 1993. Stores remaining here.

1994

11 April 1600. Checked nest: 5 eggs, still look fresh. I can just reach them.

14 April 845. Bird in hole. Went up and pulled the 5 eggs, moving them to the incubator in hopes of getting blood/tissue from them eventually. In the meantime, the idea is to make these guys renest, giving us a chance to do some mate-guarding watches and to temporarily remove one or both of the young ♂ breeders prior to renesting.

Size of eggs: ① 23.9 × 18.8 (Pretty clean) ② 24.2 × 20.3 (Pretty clean)
③ 25.5 × 19.5 (A tad dirty) ④ 25.4 × 20.0 (2nd most dirty) ⑤ 24.5 × 20.1 (Dirtiest)

Note: There had been ♂ egg-tossing seen here prior to incubation! See Mark +/or Jeremy's notes.

18 April Ambushed this morning, catching all 5 birds (♂1079 is gone). We removed [only] ♂2038, one of the 3 breeder ♂♂ here. (Note: the other young ♂, ♂2172, tossed 2 eggs [1 a runt] from the 1st nest!)

20 April ♂2038 died last night. Pisser.

21 April Three birds, probably from here, in hole (mid-afternoon) over toward Gazebo. See Gazebo notes for details.

12 May 900. Watching. ①♀ 1M #2026. Note: we've had the 2nd sub. ♂ (♂2172) in captivity for ~2 weeks now [see MTS notes]. He was caught in one of the Bower Struggles that took place after the 18 April ambush.

20 May 930. Found the new roost hole, in forest near traditional tree

1994 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

CV Grande HNHR

(20 May) Hole is deep but I don't think there's anything in it.

25 May 1655. Bird in the new hole!

27 May 1030. Bird in hole! Checked it: 5 eggs, fresh!
① 23.9×19.5 ② 23.7×19.5 ③ 25.0×20.6 ④ 23.4×19.0 ⑤ 23.8×19.5

29 May 1310. Noone in the hole (?), but still the 5 eggs.

30 May 1310. Finally let ♂2172 go (marked with green paint). The plan is to tape the hole continuously, but the batteries are screwed up and in conjunction with today's thunderstorms (!), we only got intermittant watches on the nest.

It did, however, have 5 eggs when I released him, and Katy confirmed this morning that they were incubating.

31 May Katy watched & did see a bird roost in the nest last night. Today, though, things have been unclear. As of noon or so, based on Jeremy's watch from 0600 ~ 0900 and tapes subsequently, there has been but 1 visit to the nest so far - by ♂2172! He stayed inside for ~10 minutes but did nothing else!

But why is noone else coming to the nest? It would really be a bummer to have them abandon it. I checked at the 1445 tape turnover and all 5 eggs were still there.

! ♂2172 tossed all the eggs this afternoon! Katy had the 1st; the others were between 1754-1806. See back for details.

28 June 1615. 3 kids in the new hole across the road & up the hill found by Katy this morning: ① Y (42.1, 20 WC) ② DB (38.8; 19) ③ LG (35.1, 17)
~9-10 do. ELED ≈ 7 June

30 May Tapes of nest

1315 - 1415 (1 visit by ♀ only)

1520 - 1522 (Zilch)

31 May Tape of nest - 1 egg tossed by ♂2172 previously

1703 - 1808

1735 ♀ enters 1744 leaves

1754 ♂ enters 2172

Threw one egg out! It just flew out of his bill!

1755 Flew off with a 2nd one!

1756. ♂ enters

1802 ♂2172 at hole, wakes, looks in, leaves.

1803. ♂2172 enters ~~looks out, leaves~~.

other ♂ leaves!

1805. ♂ leaves with egg! Presumably ♂2172 but couldn't positively ID him

1806. ♂2172 enters again, leaves with the last egg.

1806. ♂2172 enters
1808. ♂2 enters } both in together!

tape ends!

1994 Walter D Koenig
1995

Melanerpes formicivorus

CVGrande HNHR

(28 June) 1900. ♂ Or-Wh/M #1616 roosted (alone) in the nest tonight.

7 July 1900. Not sure which ♂ roosted tonight - if I had to guess, I'd say it was ♂ M/Da #2172 but the look was very short. Also, I actually had a slightly better look at his left leg, and what I saw suggested the presence of a split band - hence #1616. I'll have to try again.

9 July 900. Banded & bled the 3 kids.

1900. Watched roosting tonight: ♂ 1616 definitely was the one roosting.

25 July Stores remaining.

1995

12 April 1530. Noone in any holes, but several are now "gone", including:

1) Nice hole in VO above pond - taken over by bee hive
2) 2nd nest hole ('94) across road - fallen.

However, the granary is doing well, and is fairly full of stores.

15 May 1400. Opened the hole, over by the creek in the old Live Oak nest tree (but a new hole) found this morning by Jim: 2 kids, bandable (maybe ~18 days).

18 May 1400. Banded & bled the 2 kids.

17 June 1130. Bird flushed from hole on side of hill toward CVette! Babies! Checked hole: 4 kids, largest 37.8g (~9 days). Also pulled ♂ 2550 (helper) from the nest.

1996 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

CVCerrando HNHC

10 April 1425. Bird in the live oak hole over by the creek. First nest of the year? These birds to have some acorns left.

11 April 1550. Checked the hole: 6 eggs, incubating. I measured 2 of them (they all seemed normal); see Tracy's notes for the values.

The birds to have some stores remaining.

3 May 945. Banded a male [illegible] 4 babies here.

7 May ♂1616 roosted in the nest tonight by himself. (Got a good look at [illegible] from the far side of the creek.)

8 May Moses roosted in the nest tonight with the kids...

17 [illegible]

29 October With apparently a missed fall nest here, we ambushed at the hill hole (over by CVette) where we got ♀2668 (a kid from last spring), and also at the new hole in the only remaining large Valley Oak in the F-troop area, where we got ♂2550 (~~also~~ a 1995 kid) and a ♀NOBA (now ♀2737)! Who's this? Is ♂2550 budding off up here? And where are the fledglings...?!

19 December Our friends over on oak ridge had the poor taste to cut down the granary here today. Poor things. No telling what will happen here now!

RPR Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Varvude

19 May Still some stores in the holes we put up in the old nest tree on the side of the hill. Nothing in any holes, however.

11 June Found the nest — a new hole, made by the woodpecker (or perhaps in Lewis) Banded the 3 birds. Presumably this is the same hole we passed last week.

13 December Tuesday (DM) The cow moth [illegible] the old nest [illegible] spotting [illegible] the last few [illegible] years. [illegible] not [illegible] [illegible] Slowly [illegible] [illegible] carefully to make sure she was an adult, but we'll assume she's one of [illegible] the [illegible]

1999 Neat

1997 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

CVPoquito HNHR

2 April 1400. Bird in new hole in the CVPoquito tree.

4 April 930. Opened the hole: 6 eggs (all normal). Measured two: ① 26.9 x 19.1 ② 27.4 x 19.6.

16 April 1415. Checked the nest: 5 babies. Weighed 1: 11.9g (~2 do).

1994
1995
1996

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Murf HNHR

20 January 600. With 2 NOBAs here, presumably from a late summer nest, I ambushed at one of the opened holes and got ♀2151 and a jNOBA (now 2339), who was quite scruffy on the crown where she was molting, apparently (but not absolutely positively) to a ♀. Could she have been from a fall nest?

12 April 1030. A few, but apparently not many, stores left here. Noone in any holes.

17 May 500. Ambushed the old horizontal nest hole in the lower tree and got ♂1954 - who we are temporarily removing - and ♂2341 (a helper) - who MTS will lap.

19 May On top of everything else, ♂1954 was dead. Sucks. Moral - take nothing for granted the first several days. I think this guy may have gotten stuck somehow, not starved. But captives must be checked regularly (he had gained weight his 1st day in captivity!)

3 June 1015. Walked through here, but didn't see anyone in any holes. Also, they appear to be out of stores, even though they were a supplemented group (a maneuvre that didn't seem to work very well this year, I fear).

1995

17 June 1030. No birds in holes. Also, no stores left here. Apparently they are not going to attempt a renest.

1996

5 January 1830. Ambushed the down-facing nest hole tonight, nabbing ♂2536 - the only bird here. Ellen hasn't been able to ID

1996 Walter D Koenig

Melbourne fascicons

Hurt HNHP

(5 January) him, as it turns out because his L hand is DB-YC(N), not DB-YC as in the computer and as written down when he was banded in 1994! (His band was written wrong as well!) One mystery solved, at least.

1998
1999

1998

25 April 1215. Stores here. Noone in any holes, though.

1993 Walter D Koenig
1994
1995

Melanerpes formicivorus

CVI HNHR

14 May 900. Banded & bled the 6 babies here. (Do they all belong here or did Mark transplant any?)

19 Sept 1540. Stores remaining here (a fair number).

10 Oct 910. " " "

1994

12 April 1020. Still stores here. Also, flushed a bird from the old nest hole low in the granary (facing back toward the trunk).
1600. Opened the hole: 6 eggs, not clean but still translucent (inc. for 1-2 days, probably). Measured the eggs:

① 25.9 × 19.3 ③ 25.8 × 19.7 ⑤ 26.1 × 19.9
② 26.2 × 19.5 ④ 24.4 × 18.7 ⑥ 25.6 × 20.0

12 May 940. Note: nest failed after hatching for unknown reasons [see MTS notes]. Plenty of stores here, but no sign of a renest.

20 May 1130. Found the renest - or at least a ♀ in a hole - over by the windmill. No sounds when she flushed, so probably eggs.

23 May 1000. Opened the hole: 6 eggs, looks almost ready to hatch.

3 June 1000. 4 babies: ① LB (56.8) ② Yel (54.6) ③ LP (60.6) ④ NOBA (58.2)
Band ~13 June.

25 July Stores remaining.

1995

6 June Put the back back on the windmill hole.

17 June Although there's no sign of a renest, there are some stores left here.

1996 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

CVJ HWKE

10 April No stores appear to be left here.

1997 Walter D Koenig
1998

Melanerpes formicivorus

CVI HNHR

14 May 930. Opened the nest, which is in a small dead limb in a Valley Oak over by The Windmill. They have 4 babies (possibly 5 - I couldn't quite reach far enough to be positive) that are ~4-5 days old (band ~31 May).

31 May 1600. Banded & bled the 4 babies here.

9 July 1110. Plenty of stores here, but nothing to see [illegible]

1998

25 April 1220. Plenty of stores.

26 April 1100 [illegible] ... you have a [illegible] Stores [illegible] [illegible] Oak [illegible] but I think they have something here. Still stores.

23 November Finished this evening, getting all 4 birds, including the 2 new (?) NOBA ♂♂s.

1993 Walter D. Koenig
1994

Melanerpes formicivorus

CVZ HNHE

17 July 1300. Stores remaining. No sign of a 2nd nest, though.

1994

12 April 1000. Plenty of stores left here. Also, we flushed a bird from a low, new hole in the traditional ~~green~~ nest tree just above the road – a good ladder hole.

1630. Peeped the hole: 2 eggs (bird in hole again also).

13 April 1130. Opened the hole: 3 eggs. Marked 1-3 and measured:
① 24.1 × 18.7 ② 23.9 × 18.9 ③ 23.7 × 19.2

14 April 830. Checked the hole prior ~~to~~ to Jeremy's watch: still 3 eggs (checked – still marked 1-3).

Pres. laid late on 14 April or on 15 April

18 April 1640. Checked hole: 4 eggs. ④ 23.3 × 18.5

18 May 1200. Banded the babies (all 4 + 1 transplant).

8 June Bird in a hole up at CV2a – checked it at 1400 when at least one fledgling flushed. It was empty, not ready for a renest. The question is – was this a CV2A nest or just the CV2 birds hanging out in holes, as fledglings are wont to do? We'll assume the latter...

25 July 930. Came to band the kids (they eventually did have a 2nd nest in the hole I checked on 8 June) but found only 1 fairly-recently dead baby. Measurements: Culmen: 20.5 WL: 64 Sheath: 25 (6th 38) Tail: 24 Sheath: 12 Tail spots: Yes
Not at all clear why he died – he doesn't even look particularly emaciated. There are plenty of stores left.

1995
1996

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

CV2 HNHR

12 April 1600. A modest power struggle going on here! About 10 birds or so and a lot of activity.
① ♂ Da/M #2231 ② ♀ Yel/LB #2107
③ ♂ DG/M Red/Red #2418 ④ ♀ Yel/Yel #2416 ⑤ ♀ M/MV #2420
⑥ ♂ M/Red #1372. Let me revise my estimate to 15 birds!
1620 Well, I have to go. But with ♂1372 here, this presumably is over a ♀ vacancy - but with 3 ♂♂ helpers, presumably filling the vacancy won't be easy!
This is actually quite a good show! Hope it lasts through next week!

13 April 1300. Finally made it back here to set nets (it rained this morning) and it's all quiet! Maybe it's over already? By the way, there are lots of acorns still here.

1996

10 April No one in any holes, but some stores remaining.

25 June 1545. 2 kids; 1 weighed 24 g ≅ 6 do (EHD = 19 June)

8 July 1130. Banded and bled the 2 kids.

15 July 1330. Transplanted the 2 aviary kids here; at least one of the other 2 still fine.

12 August 3 dead kids in the nest - ~~[illegible]~~ #2710, 2711, & 2712. Only j2709 potentially made it.

1997
1998

Walter D Koenig

1

Melanerpes formicivorus

CV2 HNHP

30 March 1330. Bird in new hole, traditional (non-granary) tree.

4 April 1100. Opened the hole (at least the one I think they're interested in); empty. But in good shape.

1998

30 April 845. Bird in '97 nest hole. Lots of stores, of course.

11 May 1200. Checked hole: 6 babies, 2-3 days old, + 1 unhatched egg, which measured 25.6 × 20.1. Band ~29 May.

29 May 1400. Banded the 6 kids, including, yes it's true - BIRD #3000!! A landmark indeed.

20 April 1130 lots of stores

20 May 1300. Opened new hole, 7 eggs, incubated. (I think I only peeped 5 yesterday, but I must have missed the other 2, since the eggs definitely were not fresh.)

Opening the hole was a challenge, since the limb twisted and ~~fell~~ broke in the process. I was eventually able to cut off the limb and nail the hole back together. I think it will be OK for now at least.

Measured 4 eggs: ① 25.5 × 20.2 ② 24.6 × 18.7 ③ 24.3 × 18.9 ④ 24.5 × 19.3

24 June 1st nest failed - Deb found the nest today in a new hole in the same tree (#296 now). 5 babies ~13 do!

(Bled the kids) One, unfortunately got nailed by the screw when opening the hole, leaving 4. All looked good & healthy!

Plenty of stores still here, of course.

1993 Walter D Koenig
1994

Melanerpes formicivorus

OK Corral HNHK

19 June 1650. Several birds flushed from different trees, several with potential nest holes. A few stores do remain here.

10 July 930 Banded & bled the 3 babies here (#2331-2333). A few acorns still stored here.

1994

12 April 945. Plenty of stores left; noone in any holes.

13 April 830. Watching with Joey with hopes (ultimately) of mate-guarding. Several birds here.

915. Moving to side of hill across from granary to get closer.

940. ♂ Blk-Yel/M LB-Yel / Yel- #2332.

945. Joey got a reasonable look at ♀ Or? Red- M / (N) #2136.

1010. 2nd ♀: ♀ DG-Red M / Red #2333 here briefly.

1040. Birds all disappeared down the hill somewhere toward CV2.

1100. ♀ 2333 back. Now ♀2136 also.

1105. No good evidence of >3 birds here so far.

12 May 1000. Stores still present, but noone in any holes.

23 May 1110. Watched 3 birds from a distance here for some time; they gave no real sign that they have a nest anywhere.

28 May Katy reports having seen one of the breeder ♂♂ here!

25 July Checked holes - still zilch. But there are stores left.

1995 Walter D Koenig
1996

Melanerpes formicivorus

OK Corral HNHR

18 May 1415. After seeing a bird in a new hole here a couple of days ago I came over and opened it, finding zilch. It is in good shape, though.

There are stores here, by the way.

28 June 1630. ♀ in a hole! Not an easy one to get to, though. Given that there seem to be no stores left, and the fact that I didn't hear anything when she left, I think we should wait a bit before climbing up here (it's in the main granary tree, not the "usual" nest tree next door).

10 July Bird in same hole! May be time to go see what's up...

1996

10 April Came by & checked holes: zilch, bird hole here at least. No stores here either.

December Main tree cut down by Oak Ridge Woodcutters!!

1998

1998

30 April 850. Bird in hole. Stores here also.

11 May 1145. 4 babies, 0-1 day old, + 1 runt egg! Band ~ 30 May. In hole marked #76.

29 May Banded the 3 kids; still stores here.

1993
1994
1995
1996

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

UPHF — HNHR

1 April — Birds are back here (where do they go all winter?), but no stores in the area.

16 June — 940. No sign of anything.

1994

3 June — There are stores in the tree here – presumably MPHFs???

1995

23 May — Again, there are stores in the tree here, but no sign of a group or of a nest (I checked everywhere).

1996

11 April — 1140. 1 bird flushed from tree – an UPHF bird perhaps? No stores here, unsurprisingly.

1993 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

MPHF HNHR

1 April Lots of stores still here; birds (roosting?) in at least 3 holes at 1630.

7 April MTS reported 2 birds in the good nest hole yesterday, so I came and set things up this morning in hopes of an egg-tossing picture.

615. Hole empty. No birds hanging around, here or in the other nearby holes.

730. No apparent interest in holes, at least this morning.

9 April 650. Here again. A bird in the vicinity, but hole is still empty. Watching.

715. 3 birds preening in the LPHF granary appear to be from here: ① ♂ DB Wh-Mv #1614; ② ♀ Red-wh/DB #1533. ③ ♂ M/ #1962. 4th bird here also: ④ ♂ Wh-Dk/Yellow M, #1613.

723. Bird just flew to trees across the road!

730. Birds are here, but showing no obvious interest in the holes yet. What's up with LPHF? No sign of them. All in all, things are sort of confusing here.

11 April 645. Trying here again.

700. ? M/Red-DBlue ...? in granary eating dog food...!

② ♂ Y-DG/Yel #1613. ③ ♀ M/Red #1533. 2nd ♀ here too.

712. 2nd ♀ just displaced (chased?) by one of the ♂♂...?

715. Still not sure what's going on here (is ♀1531 still here even?) but they still are not interested in holes, best I can tell.

21 April 700. Wasn't able to get back here until today, when it was too late: 4 normal, fresh eggs in the hole, which I numbered 1-4.

[illegible] 955. Bird in upper (unused) hole in traditional tree. 2nd nest.

1115. Hole checked: 5 eggs, incubated (all normal).

1993 Walter D. Koenig
1994
1995

Melanerpes formicivorus

MPWF MNHG

13 July 1500. Banded & bled the 2 babies. Plenty of stores remaining.

1994

3 June 1045. There had (is?) a finch effect here (no breeder ♂) but they do have a nest: 5 babies + 1 unhatched egg (a runt!)
① Or (22.7) ② LB (19.8) ③ DB (21.1) ④ LP (14.9) ⑤ NOBA (9.8) runt! egg: 18.6 × 15.2
Plenty of stores.

1995

17 April 1600. Went to set an ambush at the normal hole, but there was a bird in it - and 2 fresh eggs (marked). A nest!

19 April 930. Here with the NHK people (Shozo, Nori, Haruko). Still 3 eggs (Joey worked the 3rd yesterday).

24 April 1130. Bird in hole - same 3 eggs, incubated.

25 April 1200. The Japanese NHK people reported a power struggle here this morning and filmed for 2 hrs. I finally came late, by which time there was essentially zero activity (!) I checked the nest hole, though, where there were still 3 eggs (not particularly warm). What happened here? Was it a real power struggle (meaning a vacancy here?) or just some passing band of troublemakers?

23 May 1600. Banded & bled the 2 kids here. Plenty of stores remaining.

29 May 945. The NHK people reported dead nestlings here, so I opened it up to find 1 dead nestling plus ♂ 1614 - the latter decapitated!! Apparently a case of nocturnal predation! I took the bands off the 1 kid; I suppose the other may have escaped (or fledged), but I rather doubt it!

Bands removed from dead nestling
5/29/95

- Red-Mauve
- Mauve-White
- Red

1995 Walter D Koenig
1996

Melanerpes formicivorus

MPHF HNHR

17 June 1000. Lots of stores but no sign of a renest here.

1996

11 April 1400. No stores left here!

23 May 1515. 3 eggs, measured. (See Sue's notes).

26 September To Cane Ck, to show Sue area to Carol & Geof, only to see a kid (♂?) looking out of the hole! I blocked it up and went back for supplies, unusually, leaving 1 kid only, old enough such that others may have fledged already!

8 October 2000. Finally ambushed ~~the~~ an old MPHF hole and got ♂2076 - a 1992 MPHF nestling who's not been seen since January 1995! There's clearly work to be done here!

15 October 530. Ambushed the traditional hole in the MPHF tree (same one where the baby was on 26 Sept.) and caught 2 adults, ♂1962 (who we knew was here) and ♀2348, who we didn't. In fact, we don't really have any idea what she's doing here. Is she the mother of the nest? what about ♀2509? What is going on here?

1997 Walter D Koenig
1998
1999

Melanerpes formicivorus

MPHF HNHR

19 February 2100. Ambushed the traditional nest hole here, nabbing all 3 breeders but not the NOBA helper. Bummer. Tree is positively packed with acorns here.

~~[illegible] 1040. Bird in the traditional hole. 2 eggs(?)~~

~~Plenty of stores left here~~

24 July 1500. Banded & b/ed the 2 kids.

1998

30 April 940. Noone in any holes, but stores remaining here.

1999

14 January 2100. Finally got a bird - a 2Y ♀ (NOBA) in the (old) nest hole in the main granary. Presumably she's from a missed 2nd nest last summer...? Lots of stores here, by the way.

~~[illegible] Plenty of stores, but no nest hole in the MPHF tree (which is presumably MPHF's, unless there are 2 groups here again)~~

26 May HAS. Opened the (new) hole, in a dead limb in a new Valley Oak facing the road. Seems incubated. ① 24.9 × 20.0 ② 26.2 × 20.4.

1993
1994

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

LPHF HNHR

9 April MPHF birds here in the granary (which has no acorns). What's going on? No chasing or anything; indeed, there's no sign of the LPHF birds at all.

9 June 1130. Birds (inc. ♂ or/or ? #1663) are in the ravine next to the road, interested (but not obviously using) a hole in a large live oak. Hole [illegible]? Meanwhile, in the vicinity of their last year's hole are birds who keep flying up to MPHF and presumably belong there.

1415. Also here: 3 [illegible] birds. Birds going to hole regularly but noone has gone inside or felt or done anything to clarify. Why.

16 June 1130. Bird (♂) in hole.

1400. Hole [illegible]: empty. But they are definitely interested.

1530. ♂ here: ♂ [illegible]. Perhaps the breeder ♀ is gone? Hole [illegible].

6 July 1630. Bird in the hole again. Also, Veronica claims to have seen the ♂ a few days ago.

7 July 830. Hole checked. Empty, best I could tell. Certainly no babies in it, at any rate.

1994

18 April 1620. Bird in hole by road (Live Oak).

19 April 1015. Opened hole: 3 fresh eggs. ① 23.6×20.0 ② 23.9×19.4 ③ 24.0×19.8.

30 April 1630. Babies hatching! 2 recently hatched, egg #2 pipping.

23 May 900. Banded & bled the 2 babies here. There are some holes up

1994 Walter D Koenig
1995

Melanerpes formicivorus

LPHF HNHP

(23 May) near the nest hole, but I saw no remaining stores. This doesn't really mean that they are out, but they are probably fairly low. (Of course, I don't really know about anything beyond these 200± holes that are here.)

1995 →

24 May 1045. Watched for ~10 minutes, not seeing anything except a couple of birds on the hill toward CV (but across the road). Could have been these birds. Certainly no sign of anything going on here.

No stored acorns by the road, anyway. I saw a bird yesterday in the old granary, though, so maybe there's something there? No sign of birds hanging out there today, though.

6 June 1100. Bird in last year's nest hole! Checked it: 4 eggs, a couple days incubated. Measured one: 24.0 x 18.3

17 June 930. Checked nest: 3 kids, ~4 do. (Band on 7/1). No sign of 4th egg.

26 June 2015. Watched roosting tonight expecting ♂ 2075 or ♂ 2445, but instead got ♂ M/WN-LA # 1962, a ~~3rd~~ MPHF ♂. Presumably all 3 are here? [NO]

Field 1st noted up here!

Critical point: ♂ 1962 roosted in nest!

3 July 1430. Banded & bled the 3 kids here.

1997 Walter D Koenig
1998
1999

Melanerpes formicivorus

Stromberg HNHR

4 April 1100. Bird in a hole! Opened it: empty, but in good shape.

15 April 1330. 4 eggs. ① 25.4 × 18.3

24 April 1330. Just hatching; set the ambusher up.

10 July 915. I looked around and only found 3 limbs in various places with storage holes, but they all still had acorns in them!

Banded and bled the 2 kids in the 2nd nest.

1998

28 April 1330 Bird in (old) nest hole! 4 eggs fairly fresh. Stores remaining? Yes

11 May 1315. 3 babies, 4-5 days old, + 1 unhatched egg: 26.0 × 18.6. Band ~27 May.

29 May 1300. Banded the 3 babies (+ 1 transplant from Cavity). There are even some stores left in the other sycamore.

1999

19 April Stores: Yes.

1993
1994

Walter D. Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Westgate HNHR

2 February 1630. Counted stores: 2290. Tree is quite full and hard to count. Birds are definitely doing well.

8 April Stores still remaining here.

13 May 1300. Banded & bled the 6 babies here (2 from the aviary). Stores still present.

1994

20 January 1510. Counted stores: 2610. Also, Jen & Wendy claim that this group has taken over the Gate granary, which has 575 acorns.

Tree is still very difficult to count.

10 May 1700. Bird in new hole high in Sycamore (previously opened by Stanback): 8 eggs, all normal and pretty fresh. I numbered them but didn't measure them.

Plenty of stores here still.

30 May 1400. 6 healthy babies here, even though there's apparently no breeder ♂ (who was DOR about the time the eggs were laid)! ① LG (53.3) ② Yel (56.3) ③ LB (55.0) ④ Or (51.2) ⑤ DB (53.3) ⑥ NOBA (48.2). This is ~ day 13, which means banding should be ~ 7 June and LED was ~ 6 May.

31 May 1000. Also 2 NOBAs, which I'm now trying to catch.

1030. ♀1415, ♀1473 feeding. ③ ♂2028 also (♂LP-DB/LG)

1100. Got one of the ♂♂!

1135. Back to try for #2 for a bit.

1200. Got ♂#2!

The heavy wear on the feathers of both birds is consistent with them being 2Y birds, but whether they are the (presumed) helpers we missed from the (apparent) second nest last year or new,

1994 Walter D Koenig
1995

Melanerpes formicivorus

Westgate HNHR

(31 May) replacement breeders (the former breeder male got nailed by a car about the time eggs were laid) is unknown.

2 June 1330. Katy reports that there's still a ♀ NOBA here, so I'm back to go after her.

1615. Not much happening and the light sucks. Try again in the morning!

3 June 600. Trying again.

745. Finally got her! Now ♀2489.

7 June 1100. Banded and bled the 6 kids.

25 July Acorn stores still remaining.

1995

17 April 1020. Pete reports a bird in the lower hole of the the dead limb. We came out here and saw lots of activity - possibly egg-tossing is going on? In any case, the hole (not easily gotten to anymore) is empty.

24 April 1100. Birds have been in the same hole several times so I checked it again - but it's still empty!

8 May Three of the helper ♀♀ at the power struggle at 1500.

24 May 1600. Opened the lower hole in the dead limb where I've seen a bird 2-4 times in the past several days - nice but empty. I also went ahead and knocked the back cutouts out of the upper (actually middle) hole, as the limb is too rotten to warrant risking having them use it anymore. Let them use this lower hole if they insist on this limb!

29 May 930. Bird in low hole in dead limb again.

31 May 1500. Checked hole: empty!!! Egg-tossing, maybe?

1995 Walter D Koenig
1996

Melanerpes formicivorus

Westgate HNHR

7 June 1600. Finally! 7 fresh eggs. Measured 1: 25.2 x 18.7 mm.

16 June 2015. Best I could tell, noone roosted in the nest this evening (!) What does this mean?

17 June 900. Checked nest: now 6 eggs, not hatched yet. But a bird was in the hole & the eggs were warm.

20 June 2005. Unless someone is sneaking into the hole very late, noone roosted in the nest again tonight! (A ♀ was in the hole when I arrived. She eventually left and noone came after her.) I think they have a problem here – presumably related to the fact that there is apparently no breeder ♂ here. I wonder if the eggs are even fertile? It seemed as though they were developing...

26 June 1600. Hole empty. I'm not surprised, given that noone roosted in the hole.

1996

4 January 1530. Counted stores: 885, and probably an underestimate as usual. But, for the group in the best shape out here along the road. Also, 3 birds in holes while I was out here.

17 April Out of acorns here!

27 April 1015. Bird in hole. (Low hole in dead center limb.)

7 May 1330. Checked the hole: nada. Also cleaned out a Starling nest from the old high nest hole in the main trunk.

5 June 1315. Finally waited long enough: 1 baby, ~10 dd! This means BP ELED ≈ 13 May! Cleaned out a Starling nest in the high hole again.

1996 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Westgate HNHR

(5 June) 2000. At roosting, ♂ Blk/Blk-Or #2488 roosted in the nest, possibly (but unlikely) with a ♀. No other ♂ came, although it's possible (but again unlikely) that one was in the hole the whole time behind the ♀ and was never seen.

7 June 2001. Tonight at roosting, it's highly likely that both ♂♂ (#2488 and ♂ 2129) roosted in the nest. We saw them both under a 2 hour search; the only possible hole is that ♀ (#415) was in the hole or out of sight most of the time. (In fact, I saw ♂ 2129 ...)

12 June Incorrect paragraph - never roosted in the nest at least by 2000. Finally, I'd say the identity of the one remaining ♂ up there is dubious. I'd better check his tailcoverts.

[illegible] 2002. Couple days - late, hot & rainy. Climbed up the tree. Looked into that the cavity just don't look OK anymore.

27 September 900. Climbed up to the likely nest hole just to be sure: zippo.

1997
1998
1999

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Westgate

ANHR

4 April — 1515. Bird in my favorite hole. 7 eggs, fresh (all normal). Measured 2: ① 25.1 × 19.0 ② 25.8 × 18.9.

15 April — 1400. 7 babies! Didn't measure them, but I guess ~4 days old. (Band ~ 2 May).

5 May — 1600. Banded & bled the 6 babies.

10 June — 930. ♀ in the new hole, lower in the same dead limb.

12 June — 1500. Found the new hole. 4 eggs, probably. Measured ① 24.6 × 19.0 ② [illegible]
Also pulled out the nest from the hole of the first nest so I never have to climb up on that limb again.

8 July — 1130. Banded and bled the 2 babies here (2918-2919). Lots of acorns left.

1998

28 April — 930. Bird in a new hole in the main limb, but even higher than the old (Starling) hole! Managed to get up there: 1 fresh egg, which I collected (25.0 × 18.5). Lots of stores here.

19 May — 1400. Went back up there: 3 hatchlings + 1 egg. Band ~ 4 June.

1999

19 April — Stores: Yes. (Lots)

1 July — Stores: Yes.

1993
1994

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Gate — HNHR

2 February — 1615. Counted stores: 677. Using most every nook & cranny here, including the big remaining styrofoam block.

26 June — Stores remain. Yum!

1994

20 January — 1500. Counted stores: 575. Note, however, that Jennifer & Wendy believe this tree to have been taken over by Westgate...

19 April — 1615. Bird in last year's Pipeline hole - presumably these guys...

20 April — 1015. Opened the hole (it's not the same as last year's Pipeline nest). It's still being built and as yet has nothing in it.

10 May — 1530. Opened the new real nest - a new hole high in the Gate tree: 4 babies, ~7 do. Wts: Black - 28.2g; LB - 30.8g; NOBA - 15.0g; #2401: 33.1gm. The bad news is that I sawed off the 4th babies' wing in opening the hole - bummer.
Stores still up in this tree also.

25 July — 900. Banded the 3 kids from the 2nd nest here. 2 of 3 were quite runty, but will probably make it nonetheless.
There are still stored acorns here.

1995
1996

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Gate

HNHP

3 May — 1[redacted]5. Bird in old hole in Live Oak. opened it: 3 eggs, possibly incubated 1-2 days. Measured one: 25.8 × 18.3 mm.

12 May — 1400. Hole empty! Nest failed!

18 May — 1200. Checked new hole (actually, one of the old holes, used mostly by Starlings) in the Sycamore – 6 eggs, fairly fresh.

26 May — 1630. Now 8 eggs! Measured one: 27.4 × 20.1 mm. Also cleaned out a starling nest in the old high hole.

7 June — 1530. Checked hole: 3 kids, 1 bigger + 2 smaller, about 8 days old as expected.

9 June — 1130. To be on the safe side, I bled the 3 kids (#7626–2628).

13 June — 1950. Watched roosting here tonight, seeing 91571, 92251, and ♂2028, who roosted by himself in the nest.

1996

4 January — 1520. Counted stores: 150. Hanging in there, if only barely, like the rest of the road groups!

30 April — 1300. Bird in the high hole in the Sycamore.

6 May — 1130. Bird in hole again. Went up: 4 eggs, incubated. Sizes are: ① 27.1 × 20.1; ② 27.2 × 20.4; ③ 25.7 × 19.1; ④ 26.0 × 19.4.

14 May — 1030. All 4 eggs have hatched; 1 chick is runty but otherwise they look fine and ~3–4 days old.

3 June — ♂2028 roosted in the nest tonight, by himself.

4 June — And again, ♂2028 roosted in the nest tonight.

12 August — 930. 2 LOUD KIDS! In high (spring) hole! Banded & bled. About 17 do, giving an EFED of about 15 July!

1996 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Gate

HNHR

(12 August) ↑ Well, isn't this bizarre! Too early to be a fall nest, really!

1997 Walter D Koenig
1998
1999

Melanerpes formicivorus

Gate HNHR

24 March 1600. Opened a new hole 'relatively' low in the limb with last year's hole: 6 eggs, ~~just~~ early incubation. (no runts)

25 March 1300. Still 6 eggs. Measured 2: ①25.5 × 19.3 ②26.6 × 19.3

4 April 1530. 5 babies, ~4 do (no eggs). 3 babies big & healthy, 1 intermediate, and 1 almost a goner. I took the last for DNA, leaving 4 in the nest, only 3 of which may make it.

21 April 1630. Banded & bled the 3 kids.

1998

21 April 1300. Stores remaining here, along with 2 birds at the high hole in the sycamore.

23 April 1700. Nest in a new hole 2' below last year's! Two babies, ~14 days old. Band 30 April. Not so far behind last year after all!

30 April 1630. Banded and bled the 2 kids. No luck catching the unbanded bird, whoever he is.

14 May 1415. Bird in hole. Fledgling? New (2nd) nest?

21 May 1530. Checked the '97 hole, which is damp but otherwise fine. Also, stole one of the 3 eggs in the 2nd nest for hormones. Measurements: 25.2 × 20.0

1999

19 April Stores: Yes.

30 April 1100. Opened the new hole, but it's empty!

30 May 1400. 5 eggs! (Definitely, 2 ??? - There were 3 yesterday) Collected one for hormones; 4 left in the nest.

[illegible] Stores: Yes

1993 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Warp 5 HNHR

2 February Checked up here this afternoon. I'd already noted that the Black Oak roost tree had fallen, but in fact, just about everything has gone here within the past 6 months or so: the snag granary has fallen, as has most of the only other tree nearby (a Valley Oak) where I'd ever known these birds to nest or store in. All in all, there's virtually nothing left here: no storage holes, roost holes, or even much in the way of potential trees in which to start over again. My guess is that we won't be ~~seeing~~ seeing anyone here for some time to come!

1993
1994
1996

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Pipeline HNHR

2 February 1540. Checked stores here: 1766! Definitely birds here - the granary is packed with acorns.

8 June 1000. Still plenty of stores here. There must be a nest somewhere. 1105. Found it! It's high over the road in a Valley Oak toward the gate. Eggs are cold.
(1530. Banded & fitted the 3 babies).

1994

20 January 1530. As claimed by Jen & Wendy, the granary is empty here. Group has apparently abandoned. Why, I wonder? There seem to be plenty of acorns in the near vicinity.

21 January 1100. Just noticed one problem here: the large artifial storage piece, along with the limb supporting it, has fallen. The group has certainly lost a major proportion of its facilities, and could be down to ≤500 holes.

Perhaps I'll try to stick these limbs (or what's left of them) back up somewhere when I get the chance.

14 April Still looks pretty deserted. Major sections of the granary are still on the ground.

1996

4 January 1515. Nothing here, unsurprisingly.

1997 Walter D Koenig
1998
1999

Melanerpes formicivorus

Pipeline HNHR

15 March 600. Finally caught the pair of birds here (♀2462 +♂NOBA)
Also, on 13 March I finally put the large granary section that had fallen (in 1994? 1995?) back up in the tree.

20 April 1515. Bird in a nuw hole in the sycamore over by the creek!

1998

21 April Stores here, but noone in any holes.

28 April 830. 4 fresh eggs. Measured 1: 25.7 × 19.3.

14 May 1615. 3 babies, ~4 days old, + 1 unhatched egg, which measures 26.2 × 19.3 mm. Band ~ 31 May.

1999

19 April Stores: Yes.

27 May 1000. Banded & bled the 4 kids here. Still have some stores.

6 July Stores: Yes.

1993
1994
1995

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Wolfpack

HNHR

2 February 1550. Counted stores: 192. Something, at least, but I still have no lead on any major storage area here.

1994

20 January 1540. Counted stores: 92. Really, there's got to be something more here, but where?

14 April 1100. There are still a few acorns in the granary. Plus, a bird flushed when I came by. There certainly is a group here.

19 April 1545. 2 birds in hole at Pipeline/Wolfpack. Mark checked: 6 eggs! Measured them: ① 25.5 × 19.6 Translucent ② 26.0 × 20.1 Translucent ③ 25.6 × 19.4 Translucent ④ 24.7 × 18.5 Opaque ⑤ 24.9 × 18.0 Opaque ⑥ 18.4 × 14.7 A runt!

Time to find out who's here! ♀

Eggs incubated. Apparently 2 ♀♀ here.

1995

16 May 1630. Came by here and saw ~2 stored acorns and no birds. Is there even still a group here? No sign of a nest as yet.

12 June 1600. Watched for an hour here and saw very little. On 2 occasions, a bird flew by, one stopping to flycatch for a few minutes. So there may be birds here. But I sure saw no sign of a nest or really any sure sign that a group is living here.

20 June Ambushed the hole in the sycamore over toward Pipeline, nabbing ♂2408.

1996 | Walter Keering

Melanopsis fossilisans

Wolfpack | HWC

4 January | 150. Checked stress here: 88, all in the 10 by the river. Given that L was ~200, this isn't really out at all – at least there are both here!

[illegible] May, 13 June | 1985. Nothing of anything here this [illegible]

[illegible]

1996. I believe I have actually got a real [illegible]

Perhaps this will be the end of this group at last!

1997 Walter D Koenig
1999

Melanerpes formicivorus

Wolfpack — HHHR

30 December 700. Well, they weren't roosting in the hole we gave them. Instead, they were down by the creek in the small sycamore in the forest toward Pipeline. I set an ambush last night; unfortunately, the string broke, but I came back, got the pole, and succeeded in blocking the hole after missing only one bird. Interestingly, there were 3 others still in the hole - 2 ♂♂ and 1 ♀, all NOBAs! They are now #2963-2965.

So note: 4 birds here - probably 3 ♂♂ and 1 ♀ but now at least we can find out for sure.

1999

19 April There are a few stores in the big VO close to the road.

27 May Still stores left. Birds seem to be hanging out in the big VO.

6 July Stores: No.

1993
1994

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Road 1 — HNHR

1 February — 1600. Counted stores: Sycamore: 2085; Valley Oak: 950; Dead, spindly, tall oak across creek: 590 — 3625 (near '92 west hole)

Even this may be an underestimate: the trees are loaded here, especially the Sycamore, which is so full it's hard to count. Note also that the tall spindly tree across the creek is emerging as a substantial facility; I assume it belongs to Road 1 since it's right near their nest, but there's no independent confirmation of this as yet. Someday, at least, it certainly could (and will) support a separate group (like Bongo).

~~8 February — Stopped at the spindly granary this morning and reports~~

8 April — Stores still remaining here - plenty of them.

1994

21 January — 1020. Counted stores: Sycamore: 1580; Valley Oak: 675; spindly tree across creek: 1096 — 3351

This group also is purported to be storing at Finch, where there are 339 acorns, although my guess is that they have perhaps "budded" off to it instead. In any case, they are doing well, though not fabulously so.

1 March — Mark pointed out to me that the Sycamore granary has fallen! (not entirely, but the storage holes are a total loss). We saved a few limbs and ~~put~~ leaned one big limb on its side next to the tree, but basically, they have permanently lost ~2000+ holes!

14 April — 1015. Watching from the side of PO Hill.

1994
1995
1996

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Road 1 HNHR

(14 April) 1050. No good sign of anything, although there seemed to be several potentially suspicious trips over to Finch, possibly beyond the Sycamore granary somewhere.
Still stores in the main tree.

18 April 1615. Bird in hole (found by Katy).

19 April 1600. Mark checked hole (½ way up in small sycamore over on far side of creek by Finch's area): 3 eggs, quite fresh.
① 24.8 × 19.5 ② 24.3 × 19.7 ③ 24.7 × 19.5.

1995

31 May 1330. Banded & bled the 4 kits here.

26 June 1530. No one in any holes. Also, stores gone, or nearly so. There may be a very few left in the main granary, but most look like shells.

1996

4 January 1445. Counted stores: "Main" VO: 75
Spindly VO across creek: 55 } 130.
Not much, to be sure, but enough that I'm confident there are a few birds hanging on here!

1997 Walter D Koenig

1998

1999

Melanerpes formicivorus

Road 1 HNHR

6 April 1445. Checked the nest: 5 eggs, the 2 Joey marked and 3 new ones. I think he checked it on 4 April, so 2 ♀♀ are indeed breeding (mother & daughter incestuously with the sons/brothers!?)

20 April 1500. Checked the nest: 6 babies. One of the largest weighed 16gm, putting them at ~ 4 dO. (Band on 7 May).

8 May 1300. Banded & bled the 6 kids.

30 May 1415. One of the kids (DB/DB-Or (right leg)) didn't make it - he was mummified, partially blocking the entrance to the hole. (Bands remaining were: DB/DB-Or)

2 June 1530. 5 eggs, incubated, in the lowest hole in the tiny sycamore snag. Measurements: ① 23.5 × 17.8 ② 23.2 × 18.7 ③ 23.1 × 18.9.

1998

21 April 1320. Lots of stores, none in any holes. Note: most of the old nest tree (the small sycamore snag) has disintegrated; only the lowest hole used late last year remains.

1999

19 April Stores: Yes.

6 July Stores Yes

1600! Fantastic! Baby (!) here, thrashing out of the VO by the creek. Does it belong here? Did we miss the nest? Nothing else with it so it's hard to tell if it belongs here or not.

1993
1994
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1996

Walter D. Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Road Warrior

HNHR

1 February — No acorns stored here; presumably, still no group here.

1994

21 January — 1030. Still no stored acorns or sign of life here. Maybe the granary is too overgrown to be particularly desirable...?

1995

26 June — Nothing up here, best I can tell.

1996

4 January — 1420. Granary has fallen! Another (potential) group likes the dust.

1993 Walter D Koenig
1994

Melanerpes formicivorus

Finch HNHP

1 February 1540. Counted stores: Sycamore: 425 } 605.
Valley Oak: 180 }

Neither tree is particularly full, but then again neither could hold as many acorns as in the old days either (particularly the Valley Oak). Birds are here, though!

8 April No stores appear to remain here. Are there birds at all?

1994

20 January 1600. Counted stores: Sycamore: 212 } 339.
Valley Oak: 127 }

Wendy & Jen think this area has been taken over by RI; my guess is that they've "budded" and that in fact this is a viable group again, albeit one without a lot of stores.

14 April 1010. No stores left over here.

1993
1994

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

MacFlat — HNHR

1 February — 1515. Checked the dead limbs here, finding 516 acorns stored! There would appear to be a group here, unless it's just the R3 birds storing here as well.

2 February — Skip watched here this morning and reports R3 birds (mostly jays) hanging out here. So it's probably not a new group yet, at least.

8 April — At least a few acorns still stored in this area.

1994

21 January — 1045. Hard to know what's up, since Jen & Wendy have failed to see anyone in this area (or at R3), but there are a goodly number of acorns stored: Plains area: 525 } 1085. Burned LO: 560 } Not bad.

I also heard birds up on the side of PO Hill beyond the burned LO.

1 March — The old, low nest hole just above the road has been lost within the past month.

1993
1994

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Beat 3 HNHR

1 February 1500. Counted stores: Main Sycamore: 344 } 1004.
Valley Oak: 660 }

This group lost a major limb from the sycamore recently, including at least 2 old nest holes and 500 stored acorns. Thus, although they're in mediocre shape now, they were alright until this recent loss. Granary space is pretty full.

I propped a couple of the fallen pieces (~200 acorns) up against the sycamore in case they wish to reclaim the acorns.

8 April At least a few stores remain here.

21 April 800. 2 birds here, 1 is ♂ M, ? Watching for a bit.
810.? Blue-Yel/Blue Yel/M #1633.
820. Not coming back? ~~[illegible]~~.
830. Up in sycamore beyond nest tree: 3 birds, together, and a 4th who stayed after 3 flew off. 4 birds here.

1994

21 January 1050. Counted stores: ~~280~~. Syc: 280 } 700.
Valley Oak: 420 }

Pretty weak. What's really odd is that one of our Golden Oaks overhanging the road has produced acorns such that there are a fair number along the side of the road! This would make it seem like they could (still!) store a lot more acorns if they wanted to...

Seriously, there are 100-200 large, beautiful-looking acorns just sitting here (on the side of the road). Amazing!

14 April 1000. Still stores, both here and in the MacFlat tree (burned live oak). No one in any holes, however.

1994
1995
1996

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Road 3 — HNHR

18 April — 1600. Opened the high hole in the MacFlat Valley Oak, where Joey has seen birds the last couple days: 5 fresh eggs. Marked 1-5: ① 23.0 × 19.0 ② 23.4 × 19.9 ③ 23.4 × 20.0 ④ 23.9 × 20.2 ⑤ 23.4 × 19.5.

1995

23 May — Joey & I checked the nest here - 4 kids, 1 on way out that we bled & returned.

More interestingly, baby (?) Pygmy Owls were apparently fledging from an unopened hole lower in the tree here!

5 June — Banded and bled the 3 kids here. As expected, the 4th didn't make it.

Best I can tell, there are no stores remaining here, even over in the burned-out MacFlat tree across the road!

1996

4 January — 1430. Counted stores: R3 sycamore: 150 } Not much left of this thing!
R3 Valley oak: 290 } 440.
MacFlat trees: 0

At MacFlat, both sycamore snags in the flat area between the road & the creek have fallen. All that's left is the burned snag on the other side of the road, but it's empty. Things have really gone downhill here; even though they don't have much, the only unused storage facility is the MacFlat tree with maybe 300 holes; their total capacity here (including MacFlat) is probably about 900!

17 July — 2100. After Joey saw 5 birds at the old (MacFlat)

1996 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Road 3 HNHR

(17 July) nesthole last night, we ambushed this evening, nabbing 3 birds - 2 ♂♂ and a recently fledged JUV!!! Bummer! So we missed a nest here. My goodness - it's not like we hadn't been checking out here or anything.

The two ♂♂ were: 01633 and 02413.

1997 Walter D Koenig
1998
1999

Melanerpes formicivorus

Road 3 HNHR

14 April 1120. Watched here for a couple of hours, not finding anything definitive. There would, however, appear to be 3 birds here. I found one new hole past the R3 turnaround, but otherwise zilch.

20 April 1505. ♀ in the low sycamore hole near the MacFlat tree! Could this be it?

3 July Acorns stored remaining in the burned tree on the PO Hill side of the road near the old Live Oak nest tree.

1998

28 April 820. 6 babies 0-1 days old! (No eggs) In (low) sycamore hole. Band ~18 May.
There are a few stores remaining here, at any rate.

19 May 1500. Banded the 4 babies, #2975-2978.

1999

19 April Stores in the MacFlat nest tree.

2 July Stores! Yes. See Joey notes about the wired nest here. Birds were apparently in the high hole over toward Finch. I saw a bird in it about 2 weeks ago, but a night approach yielded zilch. Today, the unwired nest caught 4 fledglings!

1993
1994

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

School Hill — HWHR

25 January — 1500. Counted stores: Main tree: 1845 } 1979
2° tree: 134 }

Not especially full, but the trees are fairly well located.

20 April — 1430. 2 birds flushed * young babies calling from the hole in the upper exclosure tree.

21 April — 1330. Brought Erik up for a watch and checked the hole, where there are 4 babies:

	Wt.	WL
White	52.0	24
Pink	52.0	23
Orange	55.7	25
Lg.	48.7	22.

They're ~13 to, which makes the ELED ≅ 29 March.

4 May — 1330. Banded & bled the 4 babies here (now ~ day 26).

30 May — 1415. Made a quick pass at the holes here, but nothing obvious going on.

There are stores remaining, by the w

4 July — 830. Banded & bled the 2 babies in the 2nd nest (tree 2 in exclosure). A few stores still remaining.

1994

21 January — 1145. Counted stores: Main tree: 2250 } 2380.
2° tree: 130 }

Doing quite well. Room for a tad more still (in the bark), but otherwise quite replete.

13 April — 1545. 5 4-5-day-old babies in the Sch. Hill "C" hole! One smaller than the others, but all may make it.

1615. Noone in any other holes - the above nest is certainly it.

3 May — 1230. Banded the 4 babies. Acorns still remaining.

Melanerpes formicivorus

School Hill HNHR

(3 May) 1930. Watched roosting tonight, but ended up a bit confused. I thought I saw ♂ LG-LB/LG-LB or / (M...?) or something to that effect, but this doesn't match either of the breeders. My best guess is that it was ♂1385 and that I got the legs switched (depth perception can be quite poor that time of night) but I'd better try again to be sure. In any case, I thought it was him because I'm pretty sure I saw a single orange band somewhere. He roost at 1928, and only I spent the night in the nest.

♂1385 roosted in nest, I think...

5 May 1945. Tonight Joey and I tried again, and were again not decisive. However, Joey thought that he saw a M band on the Lower Right - again not likely, while ~~I~~ I saw M on the left and essentially nothing on the Right. My best guess is again ♂1385 with legs a bit confused, but another shot wouldn't hurt.

Again, ♂1385 I think

6 May 1945. Noone roosted in the nest tonight.

8 May 1945. Tonight, finally, I got ♂1385 roosting in the nest for sure. (by himself).

♂1385 roosted in nest

9 June. 1130. Noone in any of the known holes.

7 July 1100. Plenty of stores. No sign of a nest, however.

2 August Many reports NOBA juvs here. Piss me off.

3 August 10 birds roosted in the hole in tree #4 tonight! + 1 in the 1st nest hole.

4 August 1645. Set ambushes.

5 August 600! Everyone - 14 birds total including 4 NOBA fledglings - was in the ~~upper~~ hole in tree #4! A record for 1 ambush! By a long shot!

9 November 730. Ambushed at 3 holes this morning, partly

1994 Walter D Koenig
1995

Melanerpes formicivorus

School Hill

(9 November) for the NHK people, who were hoping for a power struggle, and partly to get a ♀NOBA seen here by Bill. In the end, we got 13 birds, including 2 juv. ♀ NOBAs!

1) New hole (unopened) in Tree #2: 2 birds, ♂1385 (the breeder, or at least one of them) and ♂2209.

2) The hole in Tree #4: 1 starling! Squeezed

3) The SH"C" hole: 11 birds, including ♀1903 (the breeder), ♂2137, ♂2208, ♀2210, ♀2330, ♂2381, ♀2555, ♀2556, ♂2557, and 2 NOBA ♀♀, both juvs(!), 2567 (pretty young, or at least delayed) and 2568.

This was quite a haul. Amazingly enough, it suggests that this group fledged an unprecedented 6 from the late summer nest that I missed - the 4 I caught in August and the 2 today. Most likely this was in the new hole I found and ambushed at this morning in Tree #2.

As for the power struggle, although we kept both breeders and the old helper ♀ 2210 until nearly 1030, no power struggle activity at all was instigated.

1995

11 April 600. More ambushed here (hoping to get ♂1426) but only got 3 birds in the hole in Tree #4. (Note: there are 3 potential holes in tree #2).

24 April New nest in Tree #1 - low limb outside of exclosure. Opened it: 3 babies, 3-4 do, + 1 egg (addled): 25.3 × 20.4 mm.

Melanerpes formicivorus

School Hill HNHR

6 May 1330. Set up in the blind, trying to catch ♂1426 for blood.

8 May At least 5 of the helper ♂♂ from here down at 1500 power struggle, where they appear to be winning.

1930 Watched roosting here; 1 ♂ roosted, but I wasn't certain which he was.

30 May 925. Watching from blind for breeder ♂♂. (Censusing)

Still stores here, by the way.

① ♂ Or/Red-Org(N) Or/M #2208. ② ♂ Or/Or M/ #1385. Still need a better look at this ♂. R leg too easily mixed up w/ 2208.

③ ♂ DB/LG R-W/ #2381. ④ ♂ B-W(N)/B-W(N) #2209.

⑤ ♂ LB/M #2137 with one of the kids over by the nest (kid is out). ⑥ ♀ Or-LB/LB-Or #2567 (unmistakeable)

1115. Things are slow, but there are certainly birds here. So far only 1 ~~other~~ of the breeder ♂♂, however.

31 May 950. In the blind again.

1020. ① ♂ LB/M Or/DB #2137. ② ♀ M/ Wh-R/DB #1903 ③ ? B-W(N) #2209.

④ ♂ Or/M #2208. ⑤ ♂ M/R-W #2381.

1115. Just saw ♂ Or/M #2208 and ♂ Or/Or simultaneously - later must be ♂ 1385.

1130. Leaving. Looks pretty much like 6 birds here.

13 June 1315. Noone in any holes. Plenty of stores left, though.

22 June 1530. ♂ in Blue Oak (old) hole at lower end of field!

23 June 1100. Checked the hole - nothing. Not even in real good shape.

1996 Walter Koenig

Hollywood Sanctuary

School Hill

3 January	1345. Counted sizes: Main tree: 12.65') 1.25 2° tree : 10) 1.00	
	Mediocre to be sure, but not terrible. Note: a lot of these are Black Oak acorns, taken apparently from the few trees off in the canyon toward SHUDEST!	
18 April	1500. No birds in holes, but trees are still stores full (again, mostly Valonia acorns).	
26 April	1600. Bird in last year's (low) nest hole: 4 eggs incubated. Sun area: 1) 24.5°F 20.0 2) 24.5°F 11.5 3) 24.5°F 11.0 4) 24.5°F 17.9.	
29 April	1230. Still 4 eggs. Getting close.	
2 May	1000. Still 4 eggs!	

1997 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

School Hill HNHP

7 May 800. Checked the new hole above the exclosure, even though there wasn't anyone in it: zilch.

12 May 1300. Bird in the hole at last!

1315. Well, it's still empty, but at least I think I can be fairly confident that they will nest here.

16 May 900. Still nothing! This is becoming worrisome....

22 May 1415. Well, we did miss the 1st nest - There are fledglings here. But at least I found the 2nd nest - it's in a new hole in Tree #2 facing into the exclosure. This is probably where the 1st nest was as well. There are now 3 eggs incubated: ① 25.2 × 20.0 ② 24.6 × 19.7 ③ 24.3 × 20.2 (egg #3 doesn't appear to be developing). I set an ambusher, hopefully to facilitate catching the 1st brood.

25 May 1900. Shit! The ambusher has fallen down and is dangling below the hole! No telling how long it may have been there. I can only hope it hasn't caused them to abandon the nest.

Meanwhile, a baby (maybe more?) is in the mitten hole up above the nice new one I kept hoping they'd nest in.

26 May 1900. Set ambush at the crummy hole. And yes, the nest is empty - operator error.

27 May 2000. A successful ambush tonight in the new hole above the exclosure: 3 NOBA juvs!

4 July 1330. Banded the 2 kids in the 2nd nest (same hole), 2914-2915.

22 August In the process of setting ambushes (we apparently missed 1 or 2 more kids from the 1st nest) it turns out there's

1997
1998

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

School Hill

HNHR

(22 Aug) another nest here! The first of the fall! It's in the same hole as the others down in the exclosure. It has 1 baby ~1 week old and 1 unhatched egg.

23 August Ambushed (0500) at the new upper hole – 4 birds, including 1 additional kid from the 1st nest who was molting to a ♀. This makes 4 from that (missed) nest thus far; they may be 1 more to go.

4 October 700. Ambushed the old Blue Oak hole down next to the path, but only got 3 birds, all banded. Where did everyone else go?

1998

15 April Ken reported a power struggle here this morning! I went up to check at 1600, at which point there was still some activity, but not too much.

① ♀ ~~Re-Wh/Red~~ Red-Wh/Red
② ♂ ~~M~~Or M/Blk-Yellow
③ ♀ Red-Blk/Red
④ ♀ DG/M
⑤ ♂ M/DB-Yel(N)
⑥ ♀ M/Mauve
⑦ ♀ LP/LP-?
⑧ ♀ LG-Wh(N)/M 2966
⑨ ♀ DB-Wh(N)/M 2954
⑩ ♂ DB/LG 2381

1640. Leaving. Lots of birds here! Some chasing; mostly just sitting.

1998
1999

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

School Hill

HNHR

22 April — Plenty of stores here, but activity is back down and noone is in any holes.

7 May — 1145. Bird in last year's hole. 2 eggs, fresh. Measured and collected 1 for hormones: 25.2 x 20.4 mm. One egg left.

17 May — 1115. Checked the hole: only 2 eggs, only 1 of which is developed! Guess taking an egg wasn't a good idea afternoon all. Might want to transplant it and let them try again.

21 May — 1315. 1 baby, ~2 do. May transplant birds here if possible. But if not, band ~ 9 June.

1999

27 April — 1200. Lots of stores, noone in any holes. Checked the 1997 hole, though - empty, but in good shape.

28 April — 1530. 2 birds in the 1997 hole, but still no egg.

12 May — 1130. Bird flushed from the (old) low hole in Tree #1! Checked it: it's in good shape, but empty.

21 May — 1330. Checked low hole: 2 fresh eggs! Measured & marked: ① 24.7 x 20.8 ② 24.9 x 20.2

26 May — 1015. 4 eggs now. (2 marked, 2 not). Should hatch ~ 2 June.

7 June — 1715. 2 babies, ~5 do (band 23 June) + 2 unhatched eggs, #1 and unmarked (③ 25.5 x 20.7 mm). Both undeveloped & removed

20 July — 1515. Bird in (other) hole (#376). Checked it: empty, but in good shape. A few (but only a few) stores left.

June 1999

Somewhere between
11 June (when the nest was
watched) and banding (23 June)
I checked the nest & found it
empty except for a big
pellet. Looked owlish to me
but I'm still getting opinions
as to it being a snake.

1993
1994

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

School Hill West — HNHR

25 January — 1515. Counted stores: Nest tree: 220 } 337.
Tree further out: 117

Hardly lots, but there are definitely birds here storing.

20 April — 1420. Bird in the high hole.

21 April — 1340. Bird flushed from the low hole this time. Guess I'll wait a bit before bothering to check either of these; possibly they haven't made a final decision yet.

By the way, there are a few stored acorns still here!

30 April — 1415. Bird in top of tree, but not in either of the holes.

4 May — 1300. Bird in low hole in granary: 4 fresh eggs.

14 May — 1010. Checked hole: 3 young babies, ~ 2 do, plus 1 dead baby. So: all hatched, 1 brood reduced already.

ELED: ~ 1 May. Band on or about 3 June.

16 May — 1340. In blind, watching.

1350. ① ♂ LBJR-W(N) / M #1608. ② ♀ Or-LG / M #1998. Breeding pair from last year. Now - any helpers?

1440. ♂, ♀ each have made 1 more trip (2 apiece).

1520. Leaving. Total # feeds on back. No sign of anyone besides the pair here, at least at this point.

2 June — 1200. Banded & bled the 3 babies here!

4 July — 900. Noone in either of the holes. Stores [illegible]

1994

21 January — 1200. Counted stores: Nest tree: 355 } 565. Not bad at all for these guys!
Tree (snag) further out: 210

13 April — 1600. Noone in any holes, but still stores here!

3 May — 1300. Bird in hole! 4 eggs, incubated. Sizes are:
(Same hole as usual)

1993

16 May 1340 – 1520 West watch (100 min)

Feeding trips Time to 1st feed: 10 min.

♀ 1998 ~~||||~~ = 5

♂ 1608 ~~||||~~ = 5

babies: 3, 4 do (est.)

1994
1995
1996

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

School Hill West — HNHR

(3 May) ① 23.8 × 19.7 ② 23.7 × 19.8 ③ 23.5 × 19.1 ④ 22.4 × 18.6

Still stores here.

12 May 1300. Checked nest: 3 babies + 1 unhatched egg (#4 - which appears to have developed but not hatched).

Wts: ① Maroon : 34.6g ② Blk-Wht(N) : 32.7 ③ NOBA : 39.6.

Day 8-9!

25 May 1400. Banded & bled the 3 babies here!

7 July 1000. There are still a few acorns remaining here!

1995

25 April 1400. Flushed a bird from the area (there are stores) but no sign of a nest.

29 May 1600. Power struggle here: ① ♀ Or/Wh-Red/M #2507 (WGate) ② ♀ M/Red-DBlue #2502 (WG) ③ ♂ R-W(N)/Maroon #2506 (WGate) ④ M/DB-Red Blk-Wh(N)/ ?? ⑤ ♀ Blk-Or/Or-Blk M/M✓ #2502 ⑥ ♀ M Or-LB/Or #1998 ⑦ ♂ LB/Blk-BPk(N) #1608 } together

The pair is here afterall! Apparently an attempted coup by the WGate ♀♀.

13 June 1300. Nobody up here; noone in the hole. Also, no stores remaining to speak of.

1996

3 January 1400. Counted stores: Main tree: 340 Snag to the West: 70 } 410.

Fairly typical here, I believe.

11 January Ambushed the traditional hole here tonight, nabbing 3 birds.

1996 Walter D Koenig

Helianthus Scandicarpus

School Hill West ANHR

9 May HHS. Flowers in the rain. Also, there are a few white, but no intact stems left here, best I can tell.

1997
1998
1999

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

School Hill West — HINHR

7 May — 830. Bird in hole! 6 eggs, a couple days incubated. Measured 2: ① 26.6 × 19.2 ② 26.7 × 18.9. There are still stores here.

12 May — 1330. 6 eggs. 1 of these is very small - possibly even a runt - except that it appears to be developing! Should hatch in a couple of days. (~15 May).

4 July — No stores left. Also no sign of a 2nd nest.

1998

22 April — A bird flew up to the traditional hole here as I walked up, suggesting something, at least. However, I didn't hear anything so I doubt they have kids. Also, they appear to be out of stores.

7 May — 1215. Noone in the traditional hole. I climbed up and opened it just in case: it's empty but in OK shape.

17 May — 1045. Birds here - Dale & I scared off at least one as we arrived. But noone in the traditional hole.

21 May — 1330. No sign of life here.

1999

27 April — 1130. ♀ in new hole, 2' above old hole. A few stores also

28 April — 1500. Opened the hole: empty - they're still building it.

12 May — 1130. Noone in any holes.

7 June — 1630. A bird in the tree, but noone in the hole. Also climbed up and peeped the new hole - no sign of anything.

1993
1994
1995

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Arf too — HNHR

18 May 900. Bird in upper hole: peeped it: 4 eggs (1 a runt?)

[illegible] 1510. [illegible]

MTS says: ~10 acorns left in April! [illegible]

1994

2 May 1650. Bird in upper hole.

9 May 1440. Checked hole: 3 babies + 1 unhatched egg. See Joey's notes for weights and measurements (of the infertile egg).

1995

25 May Joey got up here once a couple weeks ago but basically we've had to ignore these guys because the road still hasn't been cleared. However, I made it up here this afternoon and, like our prior checks, saw nothing. I even peeped the 2 holes, but no sign of a nest, impending or otherwise, in either.

Also, no stores remaining here, by the way. Of course we can't really be sure there's even a group here at the moment...

1996

10 June 1515. Haven't seen [illegible] this year with [illegible]: bird in the upper (old) hole. However, I went up and checked it and found it empty (but in good shape anyway).

27 September 930. Banded and bled the single fall baby here.

1997
1998

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Arf, too

HNHR

20 April 1600. Checked the nest: 2 babies [~2 do] and 1 unhatched (but developed) egg.

10 July 1000. No stores or birds in holes here.

1998

22 April No AW in the holes, but a Pygmy Owl was in the lower of the 2 traditional holes.

1997
1998

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

The Arnold — HNHR

3 April — 1530. Came up and made the tour with Joey. Lots of stores everywhere, including Schwartz, Fanny Arnold, UAZ, and even in the tree between LAZ and Bianca (not even sure who's storing here). But noone in holes anywhere! I guess things aren't rolling here yet.

10 July — 1100. Walked around with Joey looking for nests. Acorns still at: Black Oak; Phobo; Bianca (a few in the tree they nested in this spring); LAZ (lots); UAZ; FAAR; Arnold Schwartz; Lambert; Keep Out (didn't look but surely have lots); Al. In other words, everyone!

1998

22 April — Walked around the groups here. Everyone has acorns, including Black Oak (lots), Phobe (lots), Bianca (some), LAZ (lots), UAZ (yes-stores), FAAR (lots), KeepOut (lots), Swartz (some), and Lambert (only a few!) and Al (lots).

Noone in any holes, however!

Only Lambert is close to being out of acorns.

1993
1994

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Black Oak

HN/HR

3 February 1530. Counted stores: Central area: 330 (!)
Side area: Main VO: 612
other VO: 304
} 1246

This is a remarkably lackadaisical showing here - either there weren't that many acorns around (but what about Bianca's fall nest?) or they just didn't try very hard. Granary space not more than 25-35% full, I'd say.

7 April 1000. A few stored acorns remaining here, but hardly a lot. Noone in any holes.

28 April 830. Stores still remaining. Noone in any holes, however.

12 May 1030. Ditto. Surely there's a nest here somewhere. Maybe a roosting expedition is in order.

18 May 1040. Watching here for a sign of something.
1130. Bird (♀) in poison oak hole. That's it, I'm afraid!
1140. Still no changeover. Incubating? I'm off.

24 May 1600. Finally checked the hole: 3 babies, ~23 do! Est Hatch date ~1 May! Est LED = 20 April! Good thing I finally got up here!

25 May 810. Veronica up here for a watch.
1200. Banded & bled the 3 babies.

15 June 1000. A quick pass revealed no obvious sign of a 2nd nest.

1994

4 February 1300. Counted stores: Central area: 1580
Side area Main VO: 1150
Other VO: 440
} 3170.

Pretty respectable for a change.

1994 Walter D Koenig
1995

Melanerpes formicivorus

Black Oak — HNHR

11 April 900. Quite a few stores left. No birds in any of the known holes, however.

1130. Second time around: bird in old nest hole, relatively low in central Valley Oak facing back toward Arnold Cabin. Went up and reopened the hole, finding 3 fresh eggs (marked 1-3).

15 April 1100. Checked nest: 4 eggs. Measured: ① 24.7 × 17.9 Laid 12 April, presumably ② 26.0 × 17.4 ③ 25.5 × 17.6 ④ 24.7 × 17.1

24 May Granary still loaded.

1530. Based on watches by Mark & Jeremy, as well as a brief look myself, there would appear to be a new group in the ~~central~~ "side" area here, going over to the forest on the Bianca side (see map on back). I watched a very nice-looking hole in the trap tree for a few minutes but no sign that it's a nest, or at least that it's ~~no~~ now active. Apparently there are several NOBAs in this group, which I will call SIBO ("sibling" of Black Oak). [=Phobo]

If nothing else, this hole is a very likely roost hole. Birds definitely hang out here.

8 June 1600. Checked the 1st nest hole, where birds had been lurking on occasion, but it's empty.

1995

21 April 1600. Bird in hole (same as last year's): 4 eggs, incubated. I marked them and measured one (marked #1): 24.7 × 17.4 mm.

26 April 1430. 4 babies, 3-4 do, Plenty of stores still here.

16 May 1130. Banded & bled the 4 kids here. Plenty of stores left.

29 June 1400. No sign of a nest, but still some stores.

1996 Walter D Koenig

Melanopus Carnivorus

Black Oak HNHP

9 January 1430. Counted stems: Main tree (central area): 225.
I'm assuming that whatever is over in the "site" section belongs to Phobo –

12 April No stores here anymore, but they're apparently been using Phobo's stores recently. However, they're almost out also, so things are almost gone here either way.

27 April Noone in any holes.

1998 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Black Oak HNHR

20 May 1300. Finally opened the nest here on our 3rd attempt. 4 babies, ~8 days old. Band by ~6/2. Plenty of stores left here.

1999

7 July A few stores, not much, though.

1994 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

SIBO - FOBO - PhoBo HNHP

25 May 1045. Came up to the new hole in the large Black Oak over ½-way to Bianca to set an ambush, only discover upon opening the hole that they have 4 babies, ~22-3 days old! I banded them and then set the ambush anyway.

From last night's watch I'd say there are 3 birds in this group. I can at least catch a ♂ by ambushing tonight, but maybe I can get someone else right now.

These birds, whoever they are, have stores over in Black Oak's former "side" area.

28 May 830. Back up to try and catch adults feeding. Apparently there are indeed 3, 2♀♀ + 1♂, all NOBAs!

920. Got the ♂.

1100. Giving up. Will have to try for the ♀♀ tomorrow.

29 May 615. Back again.

700. Got one of the ♀♀!

815. Got the 2nd ♀♀!

845. Leaving.

1 June Katy did a watch here today and saw another NOBA♂!

3 June 1330. Finally made it up to look into getting the 2nd ♂, but the babies literally fledged when I looked in on them. So instead I set the ambush and will watch for a bit just in case I get them (him) still coming to "feed", but otherwise will try to see who roosts here.

8 June 2000. Watched roosting here, seeing and hearing zilch, even though over at Black Oak things were hopping. I even went down to SOBO, but saw nothing. It's as if these birds have vanished as quickly as they came. Are they still here?

1994 Walter D Koenig
1995
1996

Melanerpes formicivorus

Phobo HNHR

(8 June) Will they continue to use Black Oak's site area? Where have they gone [back?] to?

1995

26 April 1415. Noone seen in any holes.
24 May 1430. Bird in last year's nest hole!
25 May 1400. Bird in hole again.
30 May 1530. Set ambusher - Joey checked hole: 2 eggs, 2 hatchlings
21 June 1315. Banded & bled the 2 kids here.
There are stores remaining here (near end of Black Oak area).

1996

9 January 1430. Counted stores: Main Vo: 745 } 1045. (Site area of "Black Oak")
Snag: 300
This is pretty good, especially compared to Black Oak next door. Of course, it's possible that this is Black Oak's again: hopefully Ellen knows what's up here.

12 April 1515. A few stores left here, but both these guys and Black Oak have been running through them fast.

27 September 1000. Banded and bled the 3 babies here.

1999 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Photo UNHR

9 July Maybe a very few acorns here; I saw 2. For all practical purposes, they're out.

1993 Walter D Koenig
1994
1995
1996

Melanerpes formicivorus

SOBO HNHR

3 February Granary here is virtually, more likely totally, empty. Amazing—how could it have been such a good fall for a lot of the Arnolt and so bat over on this corner?

No sign of any birds, either. Presumably group has abandoned.

28 April 815. Looked around for a nest and/or sign of birds; no luck.

12 May 1020. Still no sign of life here.

18 May 1145. Continued deadness here. 1150. Wait! Some walkas off to the side....?

17 June 1010. [illegible]

1994

4 February 1230. Granary here is empty. Territory would appear to still be deserted.

11 April 900. No sign of stores or birds here. Artificial nest cavity still looks fine, however.

1995

30 May No sign of anyone here.

1996

9 January 1440. No intact acorns here, but there are 50 or so shells that look like they've been eaten relatively recently. I think there might well be someone here....

1993 Walter D Koenig
1994

Melanerpes formicivorus

Arnold 1 HNHP

4 February 1130. Counted stores: 3445. Doing quite well here. No sign of a group at Big Tree, by the way.

7 April Stores still remaining here.

28 April Quite a few stores " .

12 May 920. Bird (♀) in traditional hole. The renest, no doubt (1st nest had all dead eggs!)
1200. climbed up to check: 5 eggs (+ 1 acorn); all look normal and probably incubated (but I only peeped the hole).

21 May 1545. Checked nest: 2 hatchlings (already quite different in sizes - 1 probably hatched yesterday); 1 egg pipping (heard call), ~~1 egg dead white~~ 1 dead egg, developed, + 1 egg, undeveloped. So they may end up with 3 babies, but probably only 2. Est hatching date: 20 May; band on ~ 11 June.

8 July Plenty of stores remaining.

1994

4 February 1030. Counted stores: 4360. Impressive, to say the least. Nothing to suggest a group at Big Tree.

11 April 1045. Granary still loaded. Noone in any of the normal holes, however.

2 May 1520. Noone in any holes. 2 birds in the granary, however.

11 May 1145. Still can't find any trace of a nest. This group needs watching.

13 May 1230. Watched for 1½ hrs; at one point I thought the ♀ might be collecting food, but they seem not to be feeding, best I can tell. For one thing they are hanging out all over the area.

13 June 1900. Climbed to the 2nd nest, which is in the hanging limb hole:

1994
1995

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Arnold 1 HNHP

(13 June) 4 kids, about 4-5 days old (a guess). Est LED: 28 May 2000. Watched roosting here. First came ♂ M/E-W #1027, then after a bit ♂ LG/WN #1026. But then, ♂ yel/or #1222 came, and one of the 1st 2 ♂♂ left and roosted over in the 1st nest hole! 81222 then entered. So all I can really say is that all 3 were there, 81222 + 1 other roosted (either 81026 or 1027).

81222 + 1 other ♂ roosted

29 June 830. Banded & bled the 4 kids.

18 July 1845. Plenty of stores still here.

1995

* 21 April 1530. 2 birds in new hole just on traditional limb in granary. Opened it: 5 eggs, 1 looks incubated, rest still translucent. I measured one: 23.3 × 18.5 mm. No runts or anything.

3 May 1030. Came to check the nest, only to find that the limb has (finally) fallen, taking with it the hanging limb hole as well as the old traditional hole facing the road! One of the few casualties due to falling limbs, and the loss of an old limb friend, of sorts. RIP!

11 May 1025. Bird in new hole, high in snag in forest above granary! Will require the big ladder, I fear!

16 May 1030. Opened the new hole! 9 fresh eggs - no runts - and one with a dent in it! Apparently now 2 ♀♀ here?? (fairly fresh, anyway.)

30 May 1445. Checked hole: 6 kids, 10-11 do! Set ambusher.

1 June 1400. Banded & bled the 6 kids here.

1996 Walter D Kersing

Melanoxylon formicarum

Arnold 1 NWE

9 January 1615. Crowded stores: 1165. Pretty good, considering this tree is basically falling apart.

12 April 1515. Still some stores here, but noone in any holes.

24 April [illegible] coming, nothing all 4 holes.

10 May [illegible]

1998
1999

Walter D Koenig

1

Melanerpes formicivorus

A1 HNHR

12 June Found the nest! (Joey) high up in a new hole in the Valley Oak above the granary. Kids are old, and I bolted. We banded two. I eventually found the third, but then he got away. However, I think we can assume they fledged 3, and that EFD est. LFD was about 29 April.

1999

30 April 1420. Checked nest. Eggs, 1 a nut! There were 4 back on 24 April so! EFED = 22 April, hatch date = 7 May, 2 ♀♀ here, apparently!

1993
1994

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Keep Out

HNHR

4 February — 1000. Counted stores: Main Tree: 2673 } 3277
Other areas: 604 }

About everything is loaded here. This group now has one of the largest facilities around! (1300 of those acorns were in the bark of the main Keep Out tree).

7 April — Quite a few stores left here.

12 May — 930. Bird in new hole in burned live oak snag. Stores still here.

18 May — 930. Finally got back to check the (new) hole: 5 eggs, incubated.

21 May — 1530. Still 5 eggs (1 a runt?).

24 May — 1415. Nest empty! No shells or anything in it. Yet another failure here. Still stores here, so it's certainly not that...

25 May — 840. ♂ in a higher hole in the burned-out tree! Checked it: empty. Maybe they'll try again, however.

4 June — 1400. Noone in the high hole. [illegible] like they've given up.

12 June — 1200. Yep! Now in the [illegible] hole: 4 eggs, incubated.

8 July — Acorns remaining in granary.

1994

4 February — 1100. Counted stores: Main tree: 1925 } 2010.
Other areas: 85 }

Not up to last year's standard, but still a good showing here.

11 April — 1030. Granary still full; noone in any holes.

15 April — 1130. Noone in any holes.

2 May — 1510. " " " " .

1605. Bird in hole! Nests (short) latter.

9 May — 1700. 4 eggs - undeveloped & infertile!! For measurements, see Joey's notes.

1994
1995
1996

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Keep Out

HNHP

13 May 1100. Mark's transplants still alive.

1 June 945. Banded & bled the 4 babies – all of whom are transplants (from the aviary...?)

18 July 945. Plenty of stores here still.

1995

24 May 1400. Checked the nice new hole over on Hastings that Joey opened last week, but still empty! Plenty of stores left here, however!

29 June 1440. Still stores here, & no sign of a nest.

1996

9 January 1600. The granary has a fair number of empty shells but not much in the way of intact acorns. My count came up with 75, which is probably not an overestimate. Are there even birds here?

12 April 1435. Out of stores here, for all practical purposes.

23 April 830. Pretty good power struggle! 10-15 birds involved; all of us are up here. Put up a net next to the granary. It's mostly banded birds here, however.

(1) ♀ TN/DG, DG #2602 (2) ♀ [illegible]/[illegible] or [illegible]/[illegible]-WN(N) (♂ 2213)
(3) ♂? [illegible]/[illegible] #2646 (4) BK-RO/RO-BK #2418.

910. Caught ♀2602.

1999 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Keep Out HNHR

25 May 1230. Found the nest, about 2' higher in limb in tree over on HNHR side. 3 kids (bottom broken off!) Old enough to band.

9 July Stores: Yes.

1995 Walter D Koenig
1996

Melanerpes formicivorus

Arnold Schwartzenegger HNHR

21 April 1700. Bird in crumby hole over by the dump! Opened it: 3 eggs, fairly fresh. Measured one: 25.5 × 19.0 mm.

26 April 1300. Noone in the hole, but there are still 3 eggs and they look incubated.

3 May 1000. Eggs have hatched - 3 nestlings, 1-2 do.

11 May 900. Still 3 kids. Jim going to do a watch here.

16 May 915. Heard the kids here as I walked by.

24 May Banded and bled the 2 kids here this afternoon. There are still acorns left here!

1996

9 January 1545. Counted 102 stored acorns here, almost all in the main tree. (There are only a few in the limbs in the small valley in the direction of ~~over yonder~~ Keep Out.)

12 April 1430. No stores left here, best I can tell. The old nest hole in the big VO, and last year's nest hole, have fallen.

11 October A nest! With old babies, right next to last year's in a knothole. Banded 2 kids

1997 Walter D Koenig
1998
1999

Melanerpes formicivorus

Arnold Schwartz HNHR

24 April 1015. ♀ Or-LB/LB-Or #2561 sitting in tree in ravine. A hole in that tree not too far away looks promising.

16 May Bird in a hole! Don't know how we'll get up to it - we may need the ladder.

10 July Still stores here

1998

2 June 1400. Still no sign of a nest, but there are still stores.

1999

25 May No sign of a nest. Stores: Yes.

1993 Walter D Koenig
1994

Melanerpes formicivorus

Lambert HNHR

4 February 1030. Counted stores: "Main tree": 410
"Hart" Fallen tree: 1063 } 1473.
"Lamb" FT: 0

Note that the V0 on Hastings down below the granary/nest tree has fallen; I'll have to check for an estimate of the loss in holes (it had been disintegrating for some time). Holes that remain are basically filled except for the Lambert Fallen Tree, which is still not being used.

No indication of anything or anybody at Arnold Schwartzenegger, by the way.

28 April 900. Acorns remaining here in the "Hastings" fallen tree.

12 May 940. Noone in any holes here, but there are still stores.

18 May 1015. ! Bird in new hole in fence line tree up from traditional tree. Peeper's hole: 4 eggs, freshish (prob. a couple days incubated)!

21 May 1530. Still 4 eggs.

25 May 830 Still 4 eggs; bird incubating. Rebecca up here for a watch.

1 June 1400. 4 pitties, maybe a few days old. Steve [illegible] opened the hole and put a band on them.

12 June 1230. Babies are screaming away.

19 June 900. Banded babies. The 4 chicks. Stores remaining in [illegible] limb & in Hastings Tree.

2 July No stores left, as I can tell.

1994

4 February 1115. Counted stores: "Main tree": 1155
"Hart" Fallen tree: 1600 } 2760.
"Lamb" " ": 5

Melanerpes formicivorus

Lambert HNHR

(4 February) An excellent showing. These 2 trees are quite replete.

Red alert! There are 310 acorns stored in The Arnold Schwarznegger tree! Who are these birds? Is there a separate group here again? Time to get on Wendy and Jennifer's butts.

Also note: last year's (Lambert) nest hole has fallen.

11 April 1035. Still some stores at Swartznegger; birds are calling on the side of the hill and thus could belong anywhere.

Up at Lambert itself there are plenty of stores but noone in any holes.

15 April 1130. Bird in hole in traditional nest tree: 2 eggs translucent but dirty. Measured them: ① 25.4 × 20.3 (Dirtier) ② 24.2 × 19.8 (Less dirty)
(egg #2 probably laid 1st.)

20 April 1110. Checked hole: 5 eggs. New ones are ③ 25.3 × 20.1 (Dirty)
④ 25.3 × 20.1 (Dirty) ⑤ 24.3 × 18.7 (Cleanest)

~~Hence, eggs are~~ Dirtiness of the eggs makes a fairly nice chronological gradient, from egg ② - ① - (3-4) - ⑤. (Same)
Presumably egg ② (FED) was 14 April, while egg ⑤ (LED) was 18 April.

20 May 1645. Banded & bled the 4 babies. Stores still remaining.

25 May Not only are there still stores at Swartz, they have a nest in the old nest tree with very old kids that Jeremy found a few days ago!

18 July 1850. Lots of stores remaining.

1995
1996

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Lambert

HNHP

26 April 1315. ♀ in old hole (#28), highish up in traditional nest tree.
Re-opened it: 4 babies, 2-3 do, no eggs.
Quite a few stores remaining here.

11 May 915. 3 kids here, looking fine.

16 May 930. Banded and bled the 3 kids, who are pretty emaciated. There are stored acorns left here.

29 June Still stored acorns here (Joey).

1996

9 January 1550. Counted stores: Nut tree: 410 } 980
"Host." fallen limb: 570 }
Not bad. While most many of the holes in the Nut tree are, I believe, new.

12 April 1430. Birds still have stores here. None in any holes, though.

1998 Walter D Koenig
1999

Melanerpes formicivorus

Lambert HNHR

20 May Out of stores here for all intensive purposes. Is anyone here anymore?

1999

25 May No stores, but a bird was in the area.

1993 Walter D Koenig
1994

Melanerpes formicivorus

Fanny Arnold HN/HR

4 February 1100. Checked stores here, finding 420, mostly in limbs over by the old fenceline. At least there's something here!

12 May 1000. Noone in any holes here. ~~There is a nice newer one in the big VO up along the fence beyond the traditional tree, though.~~

25 May 915. [illegible] in its hill in the traditional tree. [illegible] and then checked around again but found nothing. [illegible] it was an [illegible]. There's really little sign of anything going on here, or even that a group still exists.

27 May 1100. Bird here with food again. I'm [illegible] sure there's a nest here [illegible]. [illegible] me out. I'd really [illegible] to [illegible].

29 May 915. Whitling from [illegible].
930. Someone came and left - but where, exactly? Moving [illegible]
945. Babies looking out! (Upper opened hole!)
1030. Banded & bled the 4 kids!! That was close!
Babies ~29 do [illegible].

1994

4 February 1140. Counted stores: 1050. Stores are scattered around; in particular, maybe half ~~were~~ are in the dead old nest tree by the old fenceline. A pretty good showing given the loss of the granary here a couple of years ago.

11 April 1025. Quiet here, but birds in the area. Stores remaining. Noone in any holes.

2 May 1515. Bird in hole! Checked it: 5 incubated eggs (not measured).

11 May 1030. Checked hole: 3 babies, no eggs. Blk: 42.2g Red: 37.0g LB: 38.7g
About 9 do. Band ~23 May.

1994
1995
1996

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

FAAR HNHR

24 May 1230. Banded & bled the 3 kids here.
By the way, there are still acorns in a limb low in the nest tree, so these guys are not out of stores even though they have no real granary.

1995

21 April 1430. Bird in hole! Checked it - empty but in OK shape.
There are a fair number of acorns remaining here, mostly in the old ~~[illegible]~~ spindly VO over by the fence (where there are several old nest holes - but the ~~[illegible]~~ tree is largely disintegrating).

24 May Banded the 4 kids here! There are still stored acorns here, amazingly enough.

29 June And still some stored acorns here.

1996

9 January 1540. Birds have made the spindly old nest tree by the old fence (now dead) into a decent granary with 750 acorns! Along with another 90 in the snag across the fence, these birds have 790 stored acorns - not bad at all!
I'll have to look and see if I have any notes to this effect, but I think that most of the holes in the new granary are new since 1993-94, at least.

12 April 1435. Birds still have stores here! Noone in any holes, though.

7 June 1030. Banded & bled the 2 kids here. Still some stores here!

1997 Walter D Koenig
1998
1999

Melanerpes formicivorus

Fanny Arnold HNHR

24 April 1140. Bird in upper (old) hole in traditional hole: 3 babies [~1 do] + 2 eggs, 1 pipped a bit and the other a runt. Pipped egg: 26.2 × 19.6 Runt egg: 20.7 × 16.2.

16 May 1230. Got lucky and caught the ♀ at the nest, even though the kids are pretty big. Turns out she's a NOBA, which means she may or may not be old ♀ 1371 (she was certainly big enough, but who knows? We might very well be able to tell from her DNA.) So, shes now banded, in any case, as are the 4 kids.

There are stores here, as about everywhere else.

10 July Still stores here.

1998

15 May 1430. 5 babies (1 clearly on the way out); ~8 days old (eyes not open yet but otherwise big). Stores here? Yes.

Band ~ 28 May.

1999

25 May 1345. lots of stores! Also found the nest: a new hole in the dead granary, relatively low, fortunately. They have babies, but we need a ladder to open it.

27 May 1100 Opened the hole: 4 kids, ~19 do! (MoRe #274)

9 July Stores: Lots.

1993
1994

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Upper A2 HNHR

4 February 1100. Counted stores: "Main" VO: 20 } 1050.
Snag: 1030 }

Not too bad, but even the snag is nowhere close to being replete.

7 April 1145. Stores are gone! No sign of any birds, either.

12 May 1005. Noone here in passing or in any holes.

25 May 1030. " " " " " " " "

15 June 900. " " " " " " " "

9 July 1050. Birds flushed from main tree, and nothing else in evidence

1994

4 February 1145. Some stores here! 425, virtually all in the snag. Nowhere close to capacity, but someone is here.

11 April 1015. Looks as though the stores are all gone. But 1♂ flushed as I arrived, so birds are still hanging out here.

1017. ♂NOBA back in area.

~~Tree~~ Nest tree slightly down the hill over toward old A3 has fallen.

1996

9 January 1350. No stores here.

27 April 915. Several birds up here and in between, here and A2; possibly some power struggle activity.

1997 Walter D Koenig
1998
1999

Melanerpes formicivorus

UAZ HNHR

14 April 1400. Bird in hole! The old, traditional, one. Opened it: 4 fresh eggs. Set an ambush for later use.

10 July still acorns here.

1998

15 May 1540. 3 babies, 3 days old, + 1 pipped but unhatched egg. Band ~ 2 June. Stores? Mais oui!

1999

25 May 1300. Joey found the nest - it's in a hole in the old nest tree down the hill, facing South Ravine!

9 July Stores: Yes.

1993
1994

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Lower A2

HN HR

3 February 1630. Counted stores: Main (burned) tree: 3343 } 3546
Other misc: 203

These guys are loaded and doing fine. Misc areas could hold more, but the main tree is essentially full.

7 April 1130. Lots of acorns still here; also several birds and some activity of some sort.

12 May 900. Banded & bled the 4 babies here. Lots of stores still.
→ (2 transplanted from aviary)

29 May 100. [illegible] The other bird [illegible]: 4 eggs, [illegible] fresh (warped [illegible])

1994

4 February 1245. Counted stores: Burned tree: 4010 } 4470.
Others 460

Looks like these guys get the "Max acorns stored" award. The waves of acorns in the burned tree are truly astonishing.

11 April 1010. All quiet here. Plenty of stores, but none in any holes.

15 April 1115. Bird flushed from hole in rear Blue Oak. Unfortunately, it's a new hole out in a latter limb (a full 20' one, most likely).

16 April 1700. Opened the hole: 4 babies, ~3-4d old. Also set up a blind.

17 April Jeremy's watch this morning suggests only 1 breeding ♂ is still here:

9 May 1630. Banded and bled the 3 babies. One was hidden in back, but I don't think I missed any. Plenty of stores here.

6 June 1645. 4 eggs in old nest hole in other tree. Won't hatch soon, if at all.

8 June 1510. Still 4 eggs, all but 1 possibly fertile (but if so, they are

1994
1995

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

LA2 HNHR

(8 June) only a few days old). Measurements: ① 24.5 × 19.8 (Def. infertile) ② 23.8 × 19.4 ③ 23.8 × 19.8 ④ 23.8 × 19.6. Birds flush from here long before I arrive, but I think incubation continues.

14 June 1515. Eggs are still there, warm, and looking more and more infertile every time.

18 July Loads of acorns still stored here.

31 August Missed a nest here —

20 December 1900. After 2 messed up ambushes at the early '94 nest hole (facing down in left-hand forest tree) (wait - maybe this wasn't where the nest was...) ... In any case, I got 2 birds tonight, including ♀2214 and a ♀NABA - now ♀2571 - one (the only?) kid from the missed nest! A winner!

1995

26 April 1400. Noone in any holes. Plenty of stores left.

3 May 1100. A bit of power struggle activity going on here, apparently spilling over to UAZ. Also had some here earlier (in April). Perhaps a replacement occurring?

25 May 1330. Finally! Bird flushed out of easy hole.
1340. 5 eggs! Fresh. Measured 2: 24.8 × 20.0 & 25.1 × 19.7. Finally!

30 May 1500. Still 5 eggs.

21 June 1400. Plenty of stores remaining. Banded & bled the 3 kids.

1996 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Lower Arnold 2 HNHR

9 January 1520. Caramary is loaded here: 3200, and I suspect I missed quite a few. Note, however, that ½-½ of the stored acorns look old and are almost certainly from last year! Hence, the number of functional stores here is not all that much - perhaps 2000+.

12 April 1455. Lots of stores still here, but noone in any holes.

4 May 1030. Banded & fed the 4 kids here (2 + 2 transplants from Plague put here 22 May).

11 August No stores left here!

27 Novem 630. In our continuing pursuit of the 2 NOBA ♀♀ here (who are somehow coexising with ♀1873 in some unclear way) we ambushed at the horizontal hole (where we had caught ♀1873 and one of the ♂♂ a month ago or so) and missed 1 bird. We also ambushed at a new hole on the back side of the same tree and got 2 ♂♂, both banded.

So where are these ♀♀? I'm beginning to think they aren't roosting here at all, going along with my intuition that there is something strange about them - like they are really at another group somewhere?

1998 Walter D Koenig
1999

Melanerpes formicivorus

LA2 HNHR

2 June 1500. Opened the (2nd) (new) nesthole here (tagged #279). 4 babies, probably 1 do, + 1 egg (developed, but no sign of pipping). The egg measured 26.8 × 19.7.
Band ~21 June.
Plenty of stores here, of course.

1999

30 April 1440. Checked the nest, which is in the hole (previously opened) about 4' above #279. It has 4 normal eggs. Two were measured (see Joey's notes). Even though the granary has fallen here (!) there are stores in the forest area (old nest tree by fenceline).

9 July Stores: yes! Even though the main granary is, of course, gone (fell Nov 98).

1993 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Bianca

3 February	1600. Counted stores:	Old Main tree:	[illegible]	469
		Blue oak:	205	
		("New" Main tree) Site VO:	264	

A half-assed job here, as usual. Amazing, given that they even had a fall nest here. Speaking of which, the 1975 nest hole with the fall nest hole (and the 1975 nest hole further out) has fallen within the past couple of months.

7 April 1015. No stores appear to be left here!

12 May 1015. No one here in passing or in any holes.

18 May 915. I was wrong! There are a few stored acorns remaining in the "New" main tree! (But just a few.)

25 May 1100. No sign of anyone here or in any holes. Watched 15 min.

29 May 1115. Check the new nest plots and [illegible] not finished yet. Still no sign of anything here.

4 June [illegible] afternoon. Possibly this is finally it? Will have to check again, since it's a ladder [illegible]

11 June 1240. No one in the hole, but a bird flushed from the tree. Could be something going on.

15 June 910. No sign of anyone.

17 June 845. No signs, but there are [illegible] in the "new" main tree! Also, I found a very nice looking hole across the ditch. No obvious activity, but it looks active...?

[illegible] June [illegible] looks nice but it's empty.

1994 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Bianca HNHR

4 February 1230. Counted stores: ("Site" VO) New granary: 610 } 880.
Blue oak: 270

For the first time these birds seem to be taking their new granary seriously. Not bad, compared to prior years.

11 April 915. Small-scale power struggle going on here with at least 7-8 birds chasing each other around. So far only NOBAs seen. 1 banded only

930. ① ♂ Or-DB Or-LB/ ♀ #1232 along with several ♀ NOBAs and at least 1 ♂ NOBA.

~~1000~~ 945. Current winners would appear to be ♂ Or-DB 1232 + 2 NOBA ♀♀ and 1 NOBA ♂ (?!). Yes - 4 birds (2♂♂, 2♀♀) would appear to be in control (only the 1♂ banded); with 3-5 others off on the periperies of the territory.

* Acorns remain here in the storage facilities.

1000. I'm starting to think it may be 3♂♂ (1 banded) + 1♀ who are in charge. No - There do appear to be 2 NOBA ♀♀.

1005. Leaving. Things still quite active here.

15 April 1100. Quiet here now.

2 May 1550. Bird in hole (traditional tree).

1630. 6 eggs, incubated! Measured: ① 23.8 × 18.5 ② 24.3 × 19.5 ③ 23.6 × 19.2 ④ 23.7 × 19.4 ⑤ 22.5 × 18.0 ⑥ 23.9 × 18.7.

11 May 1130. Checked nest: Totally empty! Still stores, by the way.

1 June 830. Came up with the ladder to check the rotten hole: 4 babies + 1 unhatched egg! ① Yel (19.1) ② Wh (21.0) ③ Blk (18.9) ④ NOBA (13.8); egg: 23.2 × 17.9 (looks developed). Set up a nest ambusher for the ♀♀.

3 June 1450. Going for 1 of the ♀♀.

1994 Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Bianca HNHR

(3 June) 1545. Well! I saw a NOBA ♀ feed, then ♂1232, then a NOBA ♀, then a 2nd NOBA fed and I pulled the string - only to discover he was a ♂!! I have no idea who this could be - I'll have to go back through the records and see what clues I might find, if any. In any case, he's now #2490, and there is (at least) 1 NOBA ♀ still to be caught here (and presumably two!)

6 June 1450. Going for a ♀. Babies are still fine.

1520. Got one (#2501)

1540. Have a short time to try for the 2nd ♀ (who is definitely here).

8 June 1455. Going for ♀#2.

1535. Got her. That's all for now. Only other feed was by ♂1232.

It just occurred to me that one of these 2 ♀♀ could be a helper - perhaps from the same missed nest that ♂2490 may have come from. I see no way of knowing except by fingerprinting.

14 June 1520. Back to give the ♂ (1232) some more bands and to band the kids.

1615. Noone feeding! Going to band the kids anyway.

1645. of which all 4 are still there.

15 June 1200. Back to try for a bit again. No - forget it (no scope!)

16 June 900. OK. Here we go.

920. Got him. Eye (R) blind. Only band left is one on left leg: Or-DBlue. Rebanded, etc. Done finally.

22 November 1950. Ambushed this evening at both holes in the nest tree nabbing 6 birds altogether, including the ♀NOBA that I'd apparently missed this spring (now ♀2569).

1995
1996

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Bianca

HNHR

3 May 1045. Still some stores here, but noone in any holes.

24 May Still no sign of a nest here.

25 May 1500. Watched here for ~½ hr. No stores left, and no sign of a nest. But there are at least 3 birds here, generally hanging out over in the granary area (and sometimes flying more or less over to the old nest tree). I don't think we're missing anything.

1996

9 January 1500. Counted stores: "Main" tree: 270 } 350
Central area: 80 }

This may be better than what I can usually find here in a normal year! Good work!

12 April 1500. No stores left that I can see.

1997
1998
1999

Walter D Koenig

Melanerpes formicivorus

Bianca

HNHR

21 April 1100. Opened the hole: 4 babies, no eggs. Weighed one: 22.3g - ~6 do. (Band ~6 May)

10 July A few stores still in the tree they nested in this spring.

1998

15 May 1545. 3 babies, ~8 days old. Band ~28 May. They now have storage holes, and stores, up here in this tree.

1999

30 April 1500. Stores (in nest tree, up toward UA2): Yes. Checked nest:

27 May 1200. Banded & bled the 4 kids.

9 July Stores: Yes! In nest tree on the ridge!

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